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PAGES 16-19

ISLAND'S NEW YEAR'S DAY SWIM WILL HELP HEADWAY

THE 2017 New Year's Day Swim at Barry Island is an opportunity for people to raise funds for the charity Headway.

January 1 on the Island is a red letter day for many people in Barry and south Wales.

Thousands of people descend on the Island – some to participate in the swim, others to witness the event.

The tradition is that at 12 noon, the massed ranks of swimmers charge into the surf.

One of the organisers said: "No one is judging you, some will do a quick run up to their ankles and slink off up the beach and that's okay, it's between you and your conscience.

"But if you want the full kudos, the tradition is head under three times.

"A lot of the regulars will go for a second and third run into the sea. It is entirely up to you."

This year, organisers are encouraging people to raise funds for Headway, a charity that supports people with brain injuries.

If you require a paper sponsorship form, please call or text Gill on 07507 600888; or to create your own online fundraising page, go to: https://mydonate.bt.com/events/%20barryswim2017/384512

For more about Headway, and one woman's account of dealing with an 'acquired brain injury', please turn to page 12.

CLUB SAYS: 'FAREWELL EILEEN!'

Castleland's Friday Night Club youngsters said goodbye to Eileen Moore (pictured at the back) when they attended their Christmas party.

by GEM REPORTER

A tireless Barry community volunteer and campaigner, Eileen Moore, is retiring and returning to her native Liverpool.

Eileen (61) chair of Castleland Community Association, was the VCVS's 'Inaugural Volunteer of the Year' in 2007 and was the person responsible for getting a Big Lottery grant of £496,000, which transformed the community centre.

Eileen explained that the work had been long overdue.

"The building was a typical, traditional '70s community centre with a drab hall, kitchen, toilets and a high ceiling.

"One Welsh Government official told me it looked like a prison block. It wasn't inviting or welcoming."

Eileen went through the exhaustive bid process with the National Lottery, and in March 2008, volunteers discovered they had been successful.

Eight years on and the centre is thriving and used by lots of local groups.

It has offices, conference rooms, an IT suite free to the public, a cafe, a main hall, and even a mini-cinema so local children can enjoy films during holiday periods.

Eileen said: "We have volunteers on hand to help local people, and if we can't help directly, we can signpost them to where help can be found.

"The main hall hosts family celebrations such as christenings and weddings, and local sports groups like martial arts. The IT suite can be hired out to local companies.

"We've also provided placements for people who need work experience."

The centre is also working with the Vale Council to convert a rear loft in the building to make additional space for Scope, the disability charity.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 3)

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Lyndsay & Nicola would like to thank everyone who attended The Christmas Memorial Service.

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Seeing red over council's green bags

EARLIER this year, I wrote a letter to your newspaper (which you printed) concerning my disappearing heavy duty 'returnable' green gardening bags.

I recently cleared my garden for the winter and had eight green bags of waste ready for collection.

As I was unsure if the garden waste collection system was still operational, I rang the council. I was informed that I was fortunate as this was the final week, and to put out my bags for collection the following day.

At about 3pm, my bags were still there, so I again rang the council and was told the staff worked until 4pm, so there was still time for collection.

When I looked the following morning, the bags were still there; another phone call later and I was told the person responsible for collections would be informed and he would sort it out.

Two days later, the bags were still there – yes – another phone call!

This time, a more mature lady took my call. She was very helpful and asked me if I had put my garden waste in green bags.

I told her yes, and she then asked me if they were council green bags. I told her no, because I was fed up with buying council bags which were never returned.

She then told me that the bags (although green) which I had bought from a supermarket were not acceptable.

I would have to buy "green council bags" to put my waste in; when I had done that, I would then have to phone (again!) the said department and make arrangements for collection.

I was also told that the head of department would call to see me, to explain things.

That was three days ago!

Bill Foran
Barry.

JOIN IN THE BIG DEBATE ON IMMIGRATION ISSUE

AN influential House of Commons committee plans to tour the country to find out people's views on the question of immigration.

The Home Affairs Committee announced last week that it intends to hold public meetings in all regions of the UK.

Chairwoman Yvette Cooper MP stated: "*We want to hear people's views, both about immigration, and about how they believe that common ground can be found to stop this issue dividing the country*".

The GEM, too, would like to hear your views on a controversial subject that has become central to the whole Brexit debate.

Perhaps you believe immigration has been a positive economic force and we need more of it? Some people advocate open borders, arguing that we should let in everyone who needs humanitarian or economic assistance.

Others, though, believe immigration is now running out of control and that the numbers are such that services and infrastructure are being stretched to breaking point.

It has been claimed that some groups fail to integrate and do not respect core British traditions and values, which could lead to the danger of social upheaval in the future.

Perhaps you have a totally different slant on this emotive topic? Let us know what you think.

• Whatever your view, please contact: gemeditorial@tindlenews.co.uk or write to The Glamorgan GEM, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge, CF71 7EL marked 'IMMIGRATION DEBATE'

Red Admiral spotted on coastal path

FURTHER to the article in last week's GEM (December 8) regarding the upgraded area of the Wales coastal path west of Llantwit Major beach, I attach a photograph (*above*) that may be of interest to other readers.

I often walk the path, enjoying the outdoors with camera at hand and developing my new pastime of amateur wildlife photography.

The photo is of a Red Admiral butterfly basking in the sun on a coastal path direction post in the same area as last week's article.

I took the un-edited photo, which I thought unique, just a couple of weeks ago.

William Knight,
Boverton.

Readers' Letters

Please keep your letters BRIEF and address them to: The Editor, at Glamorgan GEM Ltd, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge CF71 7EL or email gemeditorial@tindlenews.co.uk

• Letters and e-mails MUST include your FULL address and a contact telephone number.

An email address alone is not sufficient!

We reserve the right to edit all letters. We do NOT accept anonymous mail.

Thanks for coffee morning success

ON Thursday, December 1, Joe's annual coffee morning in Llantwit Major went really well.

Thank you to all who came and gave so generously that £250 was sent to Marie Curie Hospice, Penarth.

Again, I would like to say a very big thank you to George and Eina at Illtyd's 216 for their kindness. We could not do it without them.

Roz Couzens, Llantwit Major.

BAD DRIVERS A REAL MENACE ON THE ROAD

STANDARDS of driving in this country must now be at an all-time low.

With roads over-burdened with traffic, you would expect people to be more careful, but that seems beyond some drivers.

Nowadays, some fail to give way at junctions and pull on to main roads with little consideration for those who have the right of way.

Then there are the 'tail-gaters', the most irritating people on the road. They don't seem to have any idea about safe stopping distances and cling to the car in front of them.

Why? What if a driver has to suddenly make an emergency stop?

Sometimes you can be driving along a quiet road with virtually no traffic and a following vehicle can be barely a car's length behind you.

Then there are the people who race at high speed on to roundabouts when they should approach them with caution and be ready to give way to vehicles coming from the right, in line with the Highway Code.

At this busy time of year, I'm sure the number of accidents will increase, and in many instances will probably be avoidable.

Policing the roads seems to be reliant on the odd speed camera. Isn't it time the police started pulling people over when they see incompetent driving?

What do other GEM readers think?

(Name and address supplied)

'Thank you to the Rotary volunteers'

COWBRIDGE Friendship Club members and volunteers would like to say a 'big thank you' to all the Rotary volunteers who, every month without fail, be it hail rain or shine, give up their time to transport the members to Llanblethian village hall for their monthly meetings.

We would like to wish them all a very Happy Christmas and New Year!

Olive Rawson and Pat Smith.

Primary pupils raise the roof!

LAST Thursday, I had the great pleasure of attending the Christmas carol service of Ysgol Sant Curig at the Tabernacle Church on King Square, Barry, my eight-year-old granddaughter being a pupil there.

I'd like to congratulate all the children and the teachers on a beautiful and well-organised service. The singing was exceptional; I have never heard a primary school singing such lovely harmonies, and the spoken parts so audible and clearly enunciated that even an occasional Welsh learner like myself could understand and follow much of the service with a basic vocabulary!

I could tell they were all enjoying it as much as we proud parents and grandparents were – they truly raised the roof!

Llongyfarchiadau pawb, a Nadolig Llawen I chi gyd.

Andy Griffiths.

Cubs celebrate centenary year

THIS year is Cubs100, the centenary of the Cub Scout movement, and I'm lucky and proud to be ambassador for their monumental birthday party.

December 16 is the 100th birthday and like the local Cubs, I will be renewing my Cub Scout promise.

It's been an incredible year so far, with trips, fundays and camp outs, but the best is yet to come with Cubs 100 birthday parties taking place across the country this week.

For 100 years, Cub Scouts have been helping in their communities and this year is no different. Through our 'A Million Hands' project, Cubs have been helping to make their community a better place to live and work.

I would also like to shout out to the volunteers in Barry for their dedication each week to giving Cubs the chance to experience big adventures and take part in activities that could be life-changing. Volunteers – we salute you!

During this special week, I would just like to say a big happy birthday to Cubs past and present, as we look forward to another 100 years of endeavour; learning new skills, having fun and making lifelong friends.

Steve Backshall,
Cubs100 Ambassador;
Andrew Thorp,
The Scout Association.

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HIGH TIDE TIMES

(UNTIL DECEMBER 22)

The high tides listed in this week's GEM are those in Porthcawl. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tide times will vary. For instance, in Barry, the high point will be 20 – 25 minutes later.

DATE	Time AM	Ht M	Time PM	Ht M
15 Thur	06.59	10.5	19.28	10.4
16 Fri	07.47	10.5	20.14	10.3
17 Sat	08.37	10.2	20.59	10.0
18 Sun	09.19	9.8	21.43	9.5
19 Mon	10.06	9.3	22.29	8.9
20 Tues	10.51	8.7	23.19	8.4
21 Wed	11.45	8.3		
22 Thur	00.17	8.0	12.47	7.9

While The GEM makes every effort to check the accuracy of tide tables, we recommend that anyone putting out to sea, or walking in an area where they could be cut off, should check with a tide table specific to their location.

The Glamorgan GEM • Contact us...

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The end of an era as Eileen says farewell

Eileen Moore.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

This year the community centre has become a partner in the FareShare project. It works with Tesco and Greggs to provide free food for local people in genuine need.

It has helped over 300 people since September. The distribution days are Wednesday and Friday from 2pm until 4pm.

Eileen said: "What we have achieved here is because of the commitment of the volunteers, and it could not have been done without the support of the community.

"I would like to thank Jane Hutt, Alun Cairns and Pam Drake for all their support over the years.

"I have made wonderful friends. I have also made one or two enemies and ruffled a few feathers!"

Eileen has lived in Wales for 41 years and both her sons were born and live here. But now is the right time to return to Liverpool and hand over the reins to new centre manager Helen Jones who will start in early January.

"I am looking forward to spending time with my family. We are a very close family and I have four sisters, a brother, aunts and uncles back in Liverpool."

'Make town pavements wheelchair friendly'

– BARRY MAN'S CALL

A Barry man who suffers from a degenerative illness says more needs to be done to help people who use wheelchairs to get about on local pavements.

Richard Enos, who lives on the Cwm Talwg estate off Pontypridd Road, told The GEM: "Since early 2015 I have been confined to a wheelchair – if that wasn't bad enough getting around is also a nightmare due to crumbling pavements and a lack of dropped kerbs."

For many years, Richard was in good health – he used to work as a mechanic – but 15 years ago he noticed a deterioration in his physical abilities.

"I had muscle loss in the arms and legs, in fact all over the body."

Eventually, he was diagnosed with Becker muscular dystrophy, a genetic disease in which muscle use declines. He was able to work until 2006.

He and his wife Pauline have a Chrysler Voyager with a ramp which enables him to get out and about, such as down to the Knap.

He also wants to keep as independent as possible in his electric wheelchair – that means being able to make it to the Cwm Talwg pub, his dentist on Porthkerry Road and GP at Highlight Park.

"Sometimes I can be faced with a kerb drop of six inches, the maximum I can do is seven centimetres (2.7 inches)."

It often means he can't take what should be the simplest route to a destination.

"It takes me half an hour to get to the dentist because of the route I have to take."

Uneven pavements, sometimes caused by the roots of trees, are an obstacle too, and make for an unsteady ride.

Last year he spoke to his local councillor Howard Hamilton, and recently he contacted Assembly Member Jane Hutt, who were both sympathetic and said they would get in touch with the Vale Council, but he has heard nothing back.

"What is happening? Nothing has been done at all. I see the cycle path going up along the Port Road with dropped kerbs that don't seem to go anywhere. What about the streets in Barry?"

He emphasised that level pavements and dropped kerbs are of assistance to elderly people and young parents with pushchairs too.

Richard says that when he was able-bodied and driving, he used to keep an eye out for potholes. Now, he looks to see whether an area has dropped kerbs.

Jane Hutt told The GEM: "I raised this issue with the Vale Council and I understand that the area that Mr Enos has highlighted has been added to the council's list of sites to be assessed for dropped kerbs.

"However, I understand that completing the work will depend on the availability of funding."

Coun Howard Hamilton, who has been in touch with council officials over the matter, added: "I will continue to support Mr Enos's requests for the installation of dropped kerbs in his area and I also completely understand his frustration regarding his request."

Richard Enos says more dropped kerbs are needed in the town to help wheel chair users get about.

Study into Dinas Powys traffic options launched

THE decision to undertake a study into traffic management options to relieve the congestion in Dinas Powys has been welcomed by local Plaid Cymru councillors.

Coun Keith Hatton said that it was helpful that Welsh Government officials were willing to support an investigation into transport issues in the village.

He said, "We have to be realistic that this is only a slight movement however welcome.

"The study will take into account the additional burdens imposed by the 10,000 additional houses approved in the Local Development Plan.

Richard Grigg on behalf of Dinas Powys Plaid added: "This work should have been undertaken before the huge number of houses was approved by the planning department. There have been almost no improvements to the road system and if anything the trains are fuller than ever. It is shameful that more carriages are not put on to the existing trains.

"However the public will want to know a great deal more detail in terms of time scale and the scope of any investigation."

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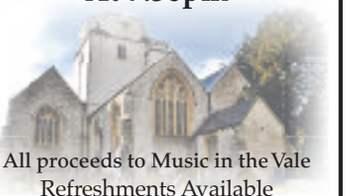

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PLATTERS TO SHARE

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FROM THE TANDOOR

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Chicken Tikka (M)	2.95	5.90
Lamb Tikka (M)	3.20	6.40
Lamb Seekh Kebab	2.95	5.90
Tandoori Lamb Chops (M)	3.50	7.50
Paneer Tikka (M)	2.95	5.90
Tandoori King Prawns (M)	4.25	8.50
Salmon Tikka (M)	4.25	8.50
Tandoori Shashlik (M)		7.00
Kebab Platter (M) (E)		9.00

POULTRY

Dhaba Chicken (M) £6.25
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Kori Gassi (M) £6.25
Traditional curry from Mangalore, made using fresh ground spices, curry leaves, chillies and coconut.
Naga Jolokia (M) £6.25
Clay oven grilled chicken cooked in a fiery blend of herbs, spices & Naga chilli.
Chicken Tikka Masala(M) £6.25
Chicken Tikka in a creamy tomato & fenugreek sauce.
Butter chicken (M) £6.25
Tandoor smoked chicken supreme, dry fenugreek leaves, honey and fresh creamy tomato sauce.
Chicken Jalfrezi (M) £6.25
Sliced grilled chicken breast stir fried with juliennes of green chillies, onions and bell peppers.
Garlic Chilli Chicken (M) £6.25
Cubed breasts of grilled chicken cooked in a garlic and chilli flavoured sauce with caramelised onions.
Goan Chicken (M) £6.25
Goan chicken curry cooked with fresh coriander, green chillies, mint and tamarind.
Korahi Chicken (M) £6.25
Korahi spiced chicken tikka with onions and peppers.

MEAT

Rajasthani Laal Maas £6.50
A fiery Rajasthani speciality. Tender lamb slow cooked in a garlic and red chilli sauce.
Lamb Jalfrezi (M) £6.50
Lamb stir fried with juliennes of green chillies, onions and bell peppers.
Kosha Mangsho £6.50
Bengali style, rich, hearty lamb curry with seasonal potatoes.
Achari Gosth (M) £6.50
Boneless lamb, pickling spices and yoghurt gravy.
Lamb Pasanda (M) £6.50
Fillet of lamb braised in a mild curry sauce of cream, coconut and greek yoghurt.
Rara Lamb £6.50
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Popular in Mumbai. Minced lamb curry with peas, ginger, garlic, herbs and spices.
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Popular lamb dish served in the railway canteen of Bombay.

FISH AND SEAFOOD

Tandoori Prawn Masala (M) (C) £8.50
Grilled tandoori king prawns cooked in creamy, tomato and fenugreek sauce.
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Aloo Choley (V)	2.75	5.00
Paneer Butter Masala(V)(M)	2.75	5.00
Palak Paneer (V)(M)	2.75	5.00
Khumb Palak (V)	2.50	4.50
Tarka Daal Lasooni (V)	2.50	4.50
Jeera Aloo Methi (V)	2.50	4.50
Aloo Gobhi (V)	2.50	4.50
Chana Masala (V)	2.50	4.50
Methiwala Saag Aloo (V)	2.50	4.50

BIRYANI

Chicken Biryani £6.50
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Cucumber Raitha (M) £1.50
Kachumber Raitha (M) £1.75
Mixed Salad £2.00
Kachumber Salad £1.00
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DESSERTS

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Pistachio Kulfi (N) (M) £1.75
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Coconut Supreme (N) (M) £2.75
Rasmalai (N) (M) £3.00

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Barry Rotary Club is told of new plan to tackle PTSD

THE guest speaker at the Rotary Club of Barry's December dinner meeting was Dr David Trotman, the chairman of 'Woody's Lodge' management board.

He gave a most interesting presentation about the work of this organisation, based at HMS *Cambria* where agencies can meet face to face with veterans of all ages to give much-needed help and support to those suffering with post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD).

Named in memory of serviceman Paul 'Woody' Woodland, Woody's Lodge provides time and free social space to 'pull up a sandbag and have a brew!' and gives a sense of purpose with talking, various activities, walking and much needed respite.

Dr Trotman explained that 13 per cent of the Welsh population are veterans, with 64 per cent being 65 or older.

This organisation is a unique remit for Wales and it is hoped that by 2019 there will be a second Woody's Lodge in north Wales with a third in west Wales by 2021.

Rotarian Mike Righton gave a vote of thanks on behalf of Rotarians and guests, who thoroughly enjoyed this talk.

The club supported the Dickensian evening in Dinas Powys at the beginning of December and will be holding a carol concert for the residents at Golau Caredig on Monday evening, December 19.

The Rotary Club of Barry also continues to support the Vale Foodbank with monthly donations of food and helped with the collecting of food at Tesco, Barry during the first weekend in December.

Members of the Rotary Club of Barry are part of an international organisation with a million members worldwide, forming a global network of business, professional and community volunteers.

The Rotary Club of Barry meets weekly in the Glenbrook Inn on Thursdays 6pm for 6.30pm.

For further information, contact club secretary Phil Hunt on 01446 720000 or look online at www.ribi.org.

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Barry pupils have heart to heart in lab...

Holton Primary pupils working together.

Identifying the structures of the heart.

THROUGHOUT November, over 70 year-6 pupils have visited Barry Comprehensive School to participate in a science project – to investigate the function and structure of the heart.

Pupils from Barry Island, All Saints, Romilly, Colcot, Gladstone and Holton Primary Schools have had the opportunity to look closely at the important role of the heart in the body and the anatomy of the heart.

The sessions looked at ways in which you can monitor your heart beat, considered the link between heart rate and exercise, modelled the pathway that blood circulates through the heart and body, and explained the main reasons why.

Pupils were then able to get hands on and dissect and analyse a lamb's heart, learning about the important structures in the heart. Pupils also investigated an ox heart, drawing comparisons to their finding in the much smaller lamb's heart. The pupils then used their findings and increased understanding to complete extended writing tasks back at their primary schools.

Mr Buttigieg, who delivered the sessions, commented: "The sessions were successful, pupils were engaged, enthusiastic and progressed their understanding well. The dissection was a particular highlight and the pupils were amazed at the structures of the chambers and blood vessels.

"The comparison of the lamb and ox heart, and sheer size of the ox's heart, was another source of amazement. I think everyone enjoyed themselves!"

Penarth display aids hospital

AN art exhibition in Penarth, created by those with a personal link to the genetic condition Cystic Fibrosis, is raising funds for a hospital ward.

In April 2016, artists with a personal link to cystic fibrosis were invited to come forward and donate their own artwork to an exhibition that aims to raise awareness of the condition whilst raising funds to help expand the All Wales Cystic Fibrosis unit at University Hospital Llandough.

At the hospital, there are currently only seven in-patient beds for the 250 patients, so more beds and specialist resources are needed.

Eight artists got in touch and their work is currently on display in Waterloo Tea Penarth, as part of the 'Just Breathe' exhibition, which is taking place in all three Waterloo Tea venues in Penarth and Cardiff, until January 8.

Artists exhibiting at Waterloo Tea in Penarth are Poppy Roberts, Haydn Gear, Kimberly Chard, Patricia Clifford, Janet Molloy, and Helen Turnbull.

Those with the condition suffer from chronic lung infections, lung damage and difficulty in breathing, amongst other challenging symptoms, often requiring hospital admission.

Please contact Waterloo Tea in Penarth on 02920 709158, or email art@waterlootea.com for more details.

Pupils put stars in the picture

BARRY youngsters helped to create portraits of the Wales football team, including Real Madrid superstar Gareth Bale – then presented them to the players.

The children completed the project with artists Jon and Sally Phillips of Pippin Designs, which involved producing pictures of Chris Coleman's squad.

It was delivered as part of the Vale Council's Barry Communities First scheme, run in partnership with the Vale Youth Service, Newydd Housing Association and Castleland Community Centre.

The paintings are being displayed in schools and community buildings.

Barry Library

THE library is holding children's Christmas activities, including: Christmas tree decorations on December 17 at 10am to 2pm suitable for ages 3 and up; the cost is 50p.

Christmas storytime on December 19 from 2pm to 3pm, for children ages 3 to 7.

Into Film Christmas special, December 20 from 2pm to 3.30pm.

Minecraft on December 22 from 2pm to 4pm; cost per session is £8.

For more information, call 01446 422425 or visit www.vale ofglamorgan.gov.uk.

VIEW FROM BEHIND AUCTIONEER'S GAVEL

ON December 6, Ryan Beach, MD of Anthemion Auctions, spoke to Dinas Powys Probus Club about life as an auctioneer selling a wide range of items – ranging from furniture, jewellery, ceramics and art – to general collectables.

After graduating with a degree in fine arts and chattels valuation, Ryan became a chartered surveyor (antiques) and opened his own auction rooms in Cardiff in 1999.

Since then, his firm have handled more than 150,000 items, at 274 sale events.

Mr Beach said that he can never tell what will turn up in his sale room, and what prices might be achieved.

Surprisingly, high prices usually happen when two bidders are fighting each other.

A wooden tobacco jar, in only moderate condition, was predicted to sell for around £2,500, but was finally knocked down at £14,500.

Current fashion also dictates prices. At the moment, brown domestic furniture is only selling at extremely low rates whereas, jewellery, silver and gold are rising in value.

Mr Beach mentioned the case of a Georgian bookcase, sold some years ago for £35,000 but which recently re-sold for £10.

The world-wide use of the internet has had a huge effect on auctioneering.

When Mr Beach publishes his catalogue of items in his next sale, he will commonly get enquires from all over the world.

Both Russia and China now have very affluent collectors who are keen to see ceramics and the like returned to their original countries.

During a sale, Ryan's staff may be juggling bids via phones and on-line from all over the world, as well as bids from the room.

This can lead to problems in securing payment when a foreign bidder will offer a sum of several million, usually when attending in person, in an attempt to demonstrate his supposed wealth, but once away from the UK, decline to complete the sale.

Approximately only 60 per cent of very large bids are actually honoured.

Auctioneers in the International markets frequently now ask for up-front cash deposits before accepting a bid.

Mr Beach is a fan of TV programmes and several times has appeared on Flog-it and similar shows several times. It can convince viewers that their pot on the windowsill is of great value because it looks like the one shown at a high value.

Many, of course, are copies. Mr Beach has experience of such a case when a viewer would not be convinced that his plate was not of the Ming dynasty – until it was pointed out that on the under-side were the words 'dishwasher safe'.

The vote of thanks was given by John Huw Williams. **CR**

Remembering the lost 32...

THE lives of 32 young men from one Welsh parish who were killed on active service in the Great War have been brought to life in a special commemorative book.

As plans were being made to unveil a new memorial at All Saints' Church in Penarth on Remembrance Sunday, November 13, it was discovered that one of the young soldiers had been killed on that exact date 100 years ago.

This discovery sparked a decision to produce a commemorative book to accompany the dedication of the memorial. It was researched and written by parishioner Jane McLaughlin and called simply *32* – the number killed from the parish in World War One. Many family members of those in the book were traced and attended the dedication service.

The book explains that these men who died had served in three services stretching across the world and were from all parts of society, ranging from wealthy to poor and from a lieutenant colonel to a private.

Vicar of Penarth All Saints', Canon Peter Cox said: "The discovery that one young soldier from All Saints' Church, Penarth was killed on November 13, resulted in the production of this wonderful book and a really moving Remembrance Day service that engaged people from the whole community of the town.

"There were some very special moments, including the naming of the '32' by young people from Stanwell School and St Cyres School – most of the men who died were only a few years older than them.

"A plaque to replace one destroyed by fire in 1926 and another by aerial bombardment in 1941 has been placed in All Saints' as a memorial."

The idea for the book came from parishioner Len Smart and the graphics were by Tom Crooks.

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Is lack of maintenance behind road flooding along Penarth Road?

A 'LACK of maintenance' work 'might have contributed to serious flooding along Penarth Road last month,' the Penarth branch of Plaid Cymru has suggested.

This follows concerns that the highway was obstructed and thousands of motorists inconvenienced by late November rains.

De-silting work is being carried out by the Vale Council to alleviate problems locally.

David Wilton, on behalf of Plaid, said: "We all recognised that the heavy persistent rain was a challenge, but we fear that not enough is being done to reduce the flood risk in the future."

Mr Wilton said the Vale Council is aware of a suspect culvert along Penarth Road in the vicinity of Llandough Hill.

"We acknowledge that basic de-silting work is being undertaken but this really should be normal maintenance."

Plaid says the condition and the capacity of the pipe work is unknown and there appears to be some problem with privately-owned culverts.

Richard Grigg, chair of Dinas Powys Plaid Cymru, said: "The traffic queues stretched for miles, partly due to the Penarth Road flooding.

"Apparently, the money allocated is around £20,000 but this might not be adequate if further problems emerge.

"This is a major route into south Cardiff and must be more resilient in time of bad weather. Plaid is pressing the Vale to ensure that everything is done to speed up any action required."

Coun Peter King, cabinet member for highways, said: *"The Penarth Road area has been identified as at risk of flooding, with a history of being affected by standing water during extreme rainfall.*

"The highway drainage network is currently operating at a reduced capacity and during extreme rainfall, as on Monday November 21, flooding can occur.

"The council is currently surveying the water and drainage system serving the area to establish its form and ownership.

"As part of this investigation, the culvert is being cleansed to ensure optimal performance and to identify any defects that need attention.

"Once the survey is concluded, an assessment will be undertaken to confirm the capacity of the system and determine the flood risk to the highway and surrounding premises.

"The Vale Council takes a risk-based approach to managing flood risk across the county, in line with the Local Flood Risk Management Strategy; and, where appropriate, will seek funding to promote schemes to manage flood risk," Coun King added.

U3A end year with sing-song

SULLY U3A ended a successful year with a Christmas social, when chairman Jean Bispham, welcomed over 100 members, who enjoyed festive food and drink served by the committee.

Ginny Golding had organised two quizzes and a raffle. Surprise entertainment was provided by Gill Mathias, who gave a monologue telling an alternative version of *Cinderella*, which was very funny and enjoyed by everyone.

A happy and enjoyable afternoon finished with singing carols, accompanied by Rosemary Cook.

The next meeting will be on Thursday, January 12 at 2pm in The Old School, Sully, when new members are welcome.

SUE COLMAN

CONE-STERNATION AT ISLAND JUNCTION

RIGHT: The junction on Barry Island where Harbour Road, Station Approach Road and Paget Road all meet.

SOME people have been getting confused at the junction on Barry Island where Harbour Road, Station Approach Road and Paget Road all meet.

Cones have been placed at the junction and a temporary traffic light system installed.

One Barry resident told The GEM: "I pick up my granddaughter from Barry Island Primary School and then come under the railway bridge to the junction.

"It is unclear as to whether drivers are meant to go round the mini-roundabout or turn left, go past the train station and go round the Pleasure Park to make their way back to Barry town."

When The GEM visited the area on Monday morning, one man drove under the bridge from Plymouth Road and took an immediate right to Harbour Road without even bothering with the mini-roundabout.

A Vale Council spokesperson said: "The works at Cosy Corner are being carried out by the Waterfront developer to install a new traffic signal junction to complete the Waterfront link road.

"The temporary traffic signals on site are necessary to safely control traffic movements through the junction during this work.

"The temporary traffic signal and signage generally comply with Chapter 8 of Traffic Signs Manual and are being monitored by both the contractor and highway officers from the council.

"The council is liaising with the Waterfront developer to open the Waterfront link road to two-way traffic from the end of this week.

"Highways officers have recently visited the site to review and discuss the temporary traffic arrangements in order to ensure that the traffic management is safe and adequate for two-way traffic use."

He added: "This is the final stage to open up Waterfront Link Road to two-way traffic between Barry and Barry Island and will hopefully make travelling between the two destinations significantly easier for both residents and visitors alike."

FLORAL CHEQUE FOR VALEPLUS

BARRY Floral Society held its Christmas exhibition on November 29, when Mrs June Davies presented a cheque for £545 to Mr Steven Thomas of ValePlus, the club's chosen charity for this year.

Festive treat at the Sully WI

ON December 7, Sully WI president, Jean Dowding, welcomed members to the Christmas party a delicious buffet and drinks provided by the committee.

Santa (Anne Rees) delivered a present to each member and Eunice Grove played carols on the piano and all joined in the singing.

The ACCW competition results for the year were announced: first prize, Kathy Jones; second prize, Margaret Murrin; third prize, Adrienne Jones. Triers' Trophy Jean Dowding

Programmes for next year were given out showing a variety of different meetings.

On January 4, Val Shields will be giving a talk entitled 'Childhood Memories'. The competition will be a 'Childhood Keepsake', with individual items brought by members. On January 18, there will be a bring and buy sale.

Sully WI meets on the first and third Wednesday each month at 7.30pm in the Old School, Sully. New members are always welcome. For further information, telephone Liz on 02920 530 887.

MM

For the latest stories and breaking news... glamorgan-gem.co.uk

Jam Fund is still going strong – and changing young lives for the better

Tilly's soft play area.

Tilly (left) received a safe, soft play area at her home in Barry thanks to the JAM Fund. She is pictured with sister Maisy.

by GEM REPORTER

THE JAM Fund, which started in memory of Jamie Adamson who died of cancer at the age of five in 2004, is still going strong more than a decade after it was founded.

It has raised more than £400,000 to help youngsters suffering ill health and to ease the burden on their families.

Paul Adamson told The GEM that he was once more grateful to people who have supported the fund and donated to it in the past 12 months.

He said: "A total of £11,270 has been donated, in the last 12 months, and £8,070 has been spent in Cardiff and the Vale.

"A young girl in Barry, Tilly, had a £6,000 garden makeover and the family were thrilled with the result.

"The Rhoose parent/pupil volunteer homework club had another £1,000 to help them continue their excellent work.

"A little girl from Barry has very recently been given a further £1,000 so her parents can pay for accommodation in London to be near their child as she undergoes surgery and recovery in Great Ormond Street Children's Hospital.

"LATCH had a small donation from the JAM Fund to match funds raised by the residents at Oak Court in Penarth who raised funds at a summer fete.

"As well as all this, a little boy in Bolton was given money for a family day out as he undergoes his second bout of chemo and radiotherapy, and finally a youth group in the Midlands was awarded a grant of £1,000 towards the replacement of their log cabin and its equipment which was burnt down in an arson attack.

"The cost of replacement was over £20,000. It is a voluntary group run by an elderly gentleman who has been helping children, including disabled youngsters, to learn woodworking skills and have camping experiences for many years."

In a nice touch the group has invited Paul to go up and visit them.

"The group has asked for a memorial plaque of Jamie from the JAM Fund as it was the first sizeable donation they received.

"They have now managed to raise the funds for a replacement far more quickly than anticipated. I will be travelling up to Stourbridge to see the plaque installed.

"I would like to thank all those who have supported and donated to the JAM Fund over the last 12 months, including work friends and colleagues who ran in road runs – or sponsored those that did – and enabled the charity to donate the recent £1,000 to the little girl travelling to Great Ormond Street.

"Also a big thanks to all the team, including Harry Jones of Caldicot who at 17 was our youngest ever runner in the Cardiff Half Marathon. The team raised around £2,400 with gift aid added this year.

"I would also like to thank Mitch Fenton, an ex-Royal Navy shipmate of mine, who lives in Lincolnshire, and his family and friends, who have raised funds for the JAM Fund by taking part in some gruelling cycling challenges.

"We both served aboard *HMS Cornwall* which was launched by Diana, Princess of Wales.

"I would like to thank – as ever – the local businesses who kindly host a JAM Fund collection pot and those who donate to them.

"This year the charity donated more than it raised and it is always the most difficult factor in having to refuse requests for assistance, sadly there are more children who need support than funds available to help them."

CHRISTMAS DAY

Christmas Day is a very special day for Paul as he explained.

"I will once again be visiting Jamie's grave on his birthday which was Christmas Day, and I will be releasing 18 balloons because this year he would have become a man.

"When he passed away I pledged to release one red balloon each Christmas Day to represent each year he would have been alive up to adulthood and this year that will be honoured. From that point on it will be a single balloon each year – I can't get any more in the car!

"A few years ago I started adding tags to each balloon requesting that if anyone found one, they could nominate a child who they knew of who was poorly.

"I hoped Jamie may guide them where they were needed. I was astonished when a lady from Ferndown, near Bournemouth, messaged that she had found one and knew of a little girl we could help on the Isle of Wight.

"I was astonished because the woman was best friends with my sole London Marathon runner who lived extremely close to where the balloon came down, so the funds she raised were used to support a child near her.

"I think it is more than coincidental that a balloon which could have travelled in any direction and speed made its way 75 miles to be found by her best friend!"

Paul added: "Hopefully this year's Christmas balloons will also help someone guided by Jamie. I would like to wish everyone a merry Christmas and happy New Year from the JAM Fund charity."

Barry woman writes a book to bring hope

by Andy Johnstone

A writer from Barry has published a book to help children understand and express their emotions.

Laura Shire penned *The Cloud That Couldn't Cry* (published last month by www.candyjarbooks.co.uk) as a way of dealing with her own feelings and childhood experiences.

Laura, 33, said: "I believe that all children should feel heard and grow up with a voice."

She said that teaching children to open up and share their feelings is 'a great place to start'.

There is, however, a more recent and more poignant side to this.

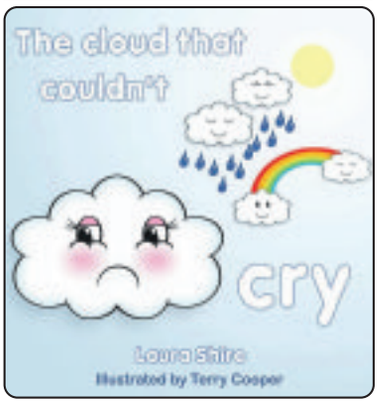
Laura told the GEM of her best friend, who lived in Brooklyn.

"Since my best friend, Claire, took her own life last year I believe even more that no one should feel 'silenced'."

"I hope that my book can help do this," she said.

Originally published privately, the title was picked up by Cardiff publisher Candy Jar Books.

Its roster of writers comprises many local authors, including the late Eileen Younghusband, and writers associated with Dr Who.



Laura said: "My book's publication is everything I could have hoped for, and more, and I am really looking forward to this new part of the journey."

Laura detailed how she has visited schools and nurseries – including in New York – reading to children.

"I struggle with confidence, so to prepare for public speaking, I took confidence classes at Palmerston Community Centre in Barry.

"The tutor, Anne-Marie Edwards, was great, and without the classes and her support, I would never have been ready to do this.

"I still can't believe that I've done it!"

For more information about The Cloud That Couldn't Cry *or award-winning independent publisher Candy Jar Books, visit www.candyjarbooks.co.uk.*

New hotel rises on well-known site

Alun Cairns and Emma Ballson at the opening of the new hotel.

THE Mount Rooms, a new hotel replacing the Mount Sorrel on Porthkerry Road in Barry, opened to the public on Sunday with a firework display.

The 44-room hotel complex, originally three Victorian townhouses, is home to a bar and café open to non-guests. It will also soon contain a gym and a beautician's parlour.

The re-development as a hotel has come as a relief to locals concerned by plans to turn the site into new houses.

Vale MP Alun Cairns cut the ribbon.

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ASSEMBLY NOTES

by VALE AM
JANE HUTT
(Leader of the House)

STEEL AND CARS BRING GOOD NEWS FOR CHRISTMAS AND THE NEW YEAR!

AS the news broke last week of an agreement between between Tata and the unions, the 'Save our Steel' campaign was congratulated in the Senedd as the Cabinet Secretary, Ken Skates, announced a £4m+ skills support package to develop staff and managers across all Tata sites in Wales.

The following day, a further announcement was made by Ken Skates of £8m Welsh Government funding towards £18m of investment to reduce energy costs and reduce carbon emissions at Port Talbot.

This good news was welcomed across Wales after months of uncertainty, with every opportunity being taken by the Welsh Government to support the Port Talbot steelworkers and their families.

Made in Wales

THE good news was followed through on December 9 at the Wales Automotive Members event at the Vale Resort, where keynote speaker, Andy Palmer, CEO of Aston Martin, spoke about the 750-strong workforce to be recruited for their new manufacturing centre at St Athan.

There was a cheer when the CEO said each new car manufactured in St Athan would have the 'Made in Wales' stamp. He was also very complimentary about the apprentices already recruited from Wales.

I met the top team from Aston Martin who are looking forward to engaging with schools, the local community and Cardiff and Vale College as they start work on their new manufacturing centre.

The team is particularly keen to enthuse young people from primary schools in the engineering opportunities Aston Martin will provide at St Athan.

I will be visiting the new site in January to take forward these opportunities with the Aston Martin team.

Schools report

I KNOW these opportunities will be grasped by our schools in the Vale of Glamorgan. My recent visits to schools include Barry Comprehensive School to congratulate the headteacher, staff and pupils on their recent impressive Estyn report, where I met courteous, enthusiastic and committed pupils.

This week, I also visited Ysgol y Ddraig in Llantwit Major, only a few weeks after this wonderful new school, funded by the Welsh Government and the Vale Council, opened its door to pupils, who told me how much they loved their new school and all the impressive facilities.

Again, I witnessed enthusiastic, hardworking pupils and dedicated teachers with their new Llantwit Major Comprehensive School buildings rising up beside Ysgol y Ddraig.

The headteacher told me their pupil 'Construction Crew' would continue to take an interest in the construction site as a learning experience.

Further important news for children and young people and their parents was announced this week by Alun Davies, the Minister for Lifelong Learning and Additional Needs. He introduced an Additional Learning Needs Bill in the Assembly proposing a complete overhaul of the system for supporting children and young people with additional learning needs in Wales, which will support children and young people from 0–25.

He said in the Chamber that this was a landmark moment for Welsh education, as a result of extensive work with parents, children and practitioners across education, health and the third sector.

So there is good news leading up to Christmas and the New Year at the end of a year of momentous events.

I am fortunate to have the opportunity to continue to support my constituents across the Vale of Glamorgan and to thank all those who are making a difference in their communities, in businesses and in our health, social services and schools.

Nadolig Llawen!

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www.hdcs.co.uk

Llamau's work doesn't stop when Christmas has ended...

FOR most people, Christmas is a wonderful time of the year. It's a time to meet friends and family, to share food, socialise, and to take some time out to rest.

For some people, though, it's not.

Christmas can be a difficult time of the year for young people and vulnerable women who are facing homelessness. Llamau will be there for them.

The charity helps those who have nowhere else to go, who cannot be at home or who face an uncertain future.

This Christmas, Llamau will be helping local women, children and young people to leave homelessness behind, just as we do every other day of the year.

Our projects are open as normal, serving a Christmas lunch to everyone whom we support.

Richard Lewis of Llamau said: "We need your support so that we can help people like Gemma and Aaron, a teenaged couple from Barry who came to us on the verge of eviction and homelessness, because Aaron had recently become unemployed.

Richard added that Llamau made sure that they were able to access and claim the housing benefit they were entitled to and resolved an issue with an upstairs neighbour in the building where they lived, which was causing them distress.

"They are now settled in their tenancy with the threat of eviction gone."

Friday, December 15 is 'Local Charity Day' where the work of local charities is recognised and celebrated. Llamau really is a local charity, starting its work in Barry in 1986, and now operating all over Wales.

Richard said: "We need your support all year round. If you'd like to support Llamau and the work that it does in our local community, please go to our website, *www.llamau.org.uk* where you can find out how to donate to us.

"We graciously accept cash donations, donations of clothing and good quality household items."

If you would like to fundraise, by holding an event such as a coffee morning or quiz night for Llamau, please get in contact with fundraising@llamau.org.uk.

The Vale of Glamorgan Council

(PROHIBITION AND RESTRICTION OF WAITING AND LOADING AND PARKING PLACES) (CIVIL ENFORCEMENT) (AMENDMENT) (NO 5) ORDER 2016

On the 12th December 2016 The Vale of Glamorgan Council in exercise ofits powers under Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 32, 35, 45, 46, 53 and 124 and Part IV of Schedule 9 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 and Part 6 of the Traffic Management Act 2004 and all other enabling powers made an Order the general effect of which is is to modify, remove and install various parking restrictions as referred to in Schedules 1 to 11 in the Order

The Order will come into operation on 19th December 2016 or on the dates that the signs and road markings are in place whichever is the later and shall be known as the "Vale of Glamorgan Council (Prohibition and Restriction of Waiting and Loading and Parking Places) (Civil Enforcement) (Amendment) (No 5) Order 2016"

A copy of the Order and plans showing the affected areas may be seen at the Civic Offices Holton Road Barry and at the address shown below during normal office hours.

If you wish to question the validity of the Order or any provisions contained therein on the grounds that they are not within the powers conferred by the above Act or on the grounds that any requirement of the same or that any instrument made under it has not been complied with in relation to the Order, you may within six weeks from the 19th December 2016 apply to the High Court for this purpose.

The following Traffic Regulation Order is to be amended in relation to the Roads and Streets listed below.

Prohibition and Restriction of Waiting and Loading and Parking Places (Civil Enforcement) Order 2013

BARRY

Broad Street	**High Street**	**Queen Street**
Market Street	**East Street**	**Windsor Road**
Island Road	**York Place**	

Amendments will be made to the following restrictions:

Limited Waiting 8.00am to 6.00pm Monday to Saturday for a maximum period of 2 hours, return prohibited in 2 hours.

Limited Waiting 8.00am to 6.00pm Monday to Saturday for a maximum period of 2 hours, return prohibited in 2 hours, except for resident permit holders.

Limited Waiting 8.00am to 6.30pm Monday to Saturday for a maximum period of 2 hours, return prohibited in 2 hours, except for resident permit holders.

Disabled Persons Parking Places

No Waiting At Any Time

Doctors Parking Place

Taxi Rank

Dated this 15th Day of December 2016.

M. E. Punter
Director of Environment & Housing
Vale of Glamorgan Council, The Alps,
Wenvoe CF5 6AA

Cyngor Bro Morgannwg

(GWAHARDD A CHYFYNGU AR FANNAU AROS A LLWYTHO A PHARCIO)

(GORFODI SIFIL) (DIWYGIAD) (RHIF 5) 2016

Ar 12 Rhagfyr 2016 gwnaeth Cyngor Bro Morgannwg, wrth arfer ei bwerau dan Adrannau 1, 2 3, 4, 32, 35, 45, 46, 53 a 124 a Rhan IV Atodlen 9 Deddf Rheoleiddio Traffig 1984 a Rhan 6 Deddf Rheoli Traffig 2004 a'r holl bwerau galluogi eraill, Orchymyn a fyddai'n addasu, dileu ac yn rhoi amrywiaeth o gyfyngiadau parcio ar waith fel y cyfeirir atynt yn Atodlenni 1 i 11 y Gorchymyn.

Bydd y Gorchymyn yn dod i rym ar 19 Rhagfyr 2016 neu ar y dyddiadau y gosodir yr arwyddion a marciau ffordd, pa un bynnag yw'r dyddiad hwyraf, ac enw'r Gorchymyn fydd "Gorchymyn Cyngor Bro Morgannwg (Gwahardd a Chyfyngu Mannau Aros a Llwytho a Pharcio) (Gorfodi Sifil) (Diwygiad) (Rhif 5) 2016"

Gellir gweld copi o'r Gorchymyn a chynlluniau yn dangos yr ardaloedd yr effeithir arnynt yn Swyddfeydd Dinesig Heol Holltwn y Barri ac yn y cyfeiriad isod yn ystod oriau swyddfa arferol.

Os ydych am herio dilysrwydd y Gorchymyn neu unrhyw rai o'i ddarpariaethau ar y sail nad ydynt yn unol â'r pwerau a ddyfarnwyd gan y Ddeddf uchod neu ar y sail na chydymffurfiwyd ag unrhyw un o ofynion y Ddeddf, neu unrhyw offeryn a wnaed dan y Ddeddf mewn perthynas â'r Gorchymyn, gallwch, o fewn chwe wythnos o 19 Rhagfyr 2016, wneud Cais i'r Uchel Lys at y diben hwn.

Diwygir y Gorchymyn Rheoleiddio Traffig canlynol mewn perthynas â'r ffyrdd a strydoedd isod.

Gorchymyn Gwahardd a Chyfyngu ar Fannau Aros a Llwytho a Pharcio (Gorfodi Sifil) 2013

Y BARRI

Stryd Lydan	**Stryd Fawr**	**Stryd y Frenhines**
Stryd y Farchnad	**Stryd y Dwyrain**	**Ffordd Windsor**
Ffordd yr Ynys	**Plas Efrog**	

Gwneir addasiadau i'r cyfyngiadau canlynol:

Aros Cyfyngedig 8.00am tan 6.00pm Dydd Llun tan Ddydd Sadwrn am gyfnod o 2 awr ar yr hiraf, a gwaherddir dychwelyd o fewn 2 awr.

Aros Cyfyngedig 8.00am tan 6.00pm Dydd Llun tan Ddydd Sadwrn am gyfnod o 2 awr ar yr hiraf, a gwaherddir dychwelyd o fewn 2 awr ac eithrio deiliaid trwydded preswylwyr.

Aros Cyfyngedig 8.00am tan 6.30pm Dydd Llun tan Ddydd Sadwrn am gyfnod o 2 awr ar yr hiraf, a gwaherddir dychwelyd o fewn 2 awr ac eithrio deiliaid trwydded preswylwyr.

Mannau Parcio i Bobl Anabl

Dim Aros ar Unrhyw Adeg

Man Parcio Meddyg

Safle Tacsi

Dyddedig 15 Rhagfyr 2016

M. E. Punter
Cyfarwyddwr yr Amgylchedd a Thai
Cyngor Bro Morgannwg, The Alps,
Gwenfô CF5 6AA

Christmas joy through the medium of song

THE children from Gladstone Primary School came to Golau Caredig, Barry, last week and delighted everyone with their renditions of Christmas songs.

The reception and infant classes, followed by juniors and school choir all sang, and it was a real pleasure to be entertained by these children and their teachers.

We value our continuing association with the school, so special thanks to all.

This year, we have welcomed many folk to Golau Caredig, and we thank everyone for their continued support and friendship in so many ways.

A merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

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Santa's Grotto
at The Royal Mint Experience

Santa's really busy at this time of year but he has set aside time to come and meet good boys and girls at The Royal Mint Experience.

Come and visit Santa in his grotto and get a Christmas present and photo to take home. Each day there will be different crafts and entertainments too.

Children must be accompanied by an adult.
Booking essential.
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To book tickets phone **0333 241 2223**

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BEREAVED DAD TAKES ON GREAT WALL CHALLENGE IN MEMORY OF BABY EVIE

A BEREAVED father is taking on one of the Seven Wonders of the World in memory of his baby girl.

Gary Footman (40), will walk the Great Wall of China next spring – to support Tŷ Hafan, the Sully-based children's hospice, where daughter Evie received end-of-life care aged just four months.

The five-day hike, over watchtowers and mountains and through historic battlement stations, will see Gary and his fellow Tŷ Hafan trekkers conquer the legendary 1,000 steps up to the Wall at Mutianyu.

As part of the charity's Great Wall Trek challenge next April, there will also be a chance to lend a hand repairing a section of the wall currently under reconstruction, securing the trekkers' own place in the Great Wall of China history.

Gary said: "The main inspiration was to honour my daughter, Evie. Also, I like a challenge – and I have no doubt that this is going to be one. The response from my friends and family, when I said I was doing the challenge, has been a mixture of support and laughter!"

Gary and his partner Sian were devastated when Evie was diagnosed with a life-limiting condition and passed away in January 2013. But the couple remain committed to supporting the charity that helped them in their darkest moments.

"My daughter, Evie, went to Tŷ Hafan for end-of-life care. This meant that we could spend all the time we had left with her, without having to worry about all the other things in life, like cooking and cleaning," he said.

"Also, it is a beautiful place to stay, and there is so much to do and so many ways to make memories, that would not have been possible if we had stayed in hospital."

"It gives you the one thing that you want most at a time like that, time to be with that person, and that is something you cannot put a price on. This is why I am supporting Tŷ Hafan, so other families in our position have the same opportunity that we had."

With Christmas festivities looming, getting his fitness up to scratch is going to be Gary's first challenge – and his New Year Resolution for 2017.

"My general level of fitness is not where it is going to need to be for this challenge. I have started back in the gym recently, but for this type of challenge, I am going to need to get up to Brecon and get the mountains in my legs so to speak. A bit more care over Christmas will definitely be needed!"

To join Gary and raise vital funds for Tŷ Hafan, to continue to support children and young people with life-limiting conditions and their families, register your interest or ask for more information, please visit the events page on the Tŷ Hafan website at ***https://www.tyhafan.org/china/***

Gary with his family, spending time with Baby Evie.

For the latest stories and breaking news... glamorgan-gem.co.uk

'Beware bogus council tax calls'

THE Vale of Glamorgan Council has reported that Shared Regulatory Services is warning residents of Bridgend, the Vale and Cardiff to beware of scam phone calls offering a 'rebate' on overpaid council tax.

A lady from Boverton had called to report a telephone call from 'Tracey' at the 'Claim Review Bureau,' with an offer to undertake a review of her council tax and reduce her bill, in accordance with the number of bedrooms she had.

The caller had requested a fee of £69 to undertake the work, but the resident refused to pay. 'Tracey' had provided a telephone number of 0843 289 1039 and when this number was searched online, it would appear that others have received similar calls.

Coun Gwyn John of Llantwit Major, chair of the joint committee for Shared Regulatory Services, said: "We have recently joined the Friends Against Scams campaign and promoted National Safeguarding week in mid-November, which demonstrates our absolute commitment to protecting our residents from fraudulent calls like these.

"We are particularly thankful to those residents that have called to report these scams, as they allow us to help others. It is very important for us to reemphasise the message that you should terminate a phone call you receive out of the blue, especially if the caller requests your bank account number or card details for goods or services. Don't be afraid to hang up the phone – it's your right to do so."

If you or a friend, neighbour or relative received similar calls, contact Citizens Advice Consumer Service on 03454 040506.

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Closing date for tall ships competition is sailing into view

THE closing date – January 31, 2017 – is fast approaching... to nominate a young person between the ages of 12 - 25.

Let's find that special person who would benefit from such an opportunity. All you need to do is apply in writing telling us why you should be considered for this experience, or if you are a parent, youth leader or a member of the public that know of such a young person who might benefit from such an opportunity then nominate them telling us why they deserve the chance.

Two winners of the Barry Councils Marine Youth Award 2016 met the Mayor of Barry, Charlotte Williams, after winning this year's competition on board the TS *Stavros S Niarchos,* which is a 200ft brig (a ship with two square-rigged masts) part of a fleet of seven ships with the Tall Ships Youth Trust (TSYT).

The two young people, Jayden Moller and Rhydian Price, spent time discussing their experiences and showing the mayor around the ship and were encouraged by the news that yet again Barry Town Council in partnership with the Tall Ships Youth Trust has launched the competition for 2017.

Local trustee Peter Coleman is always looking to help young people to gain this unique experience, development and fun by sailing with the trust and any opportunity to promote this experience with local organisations and businesses that might like to support local young people in their communities.

For further details, go to website: www.tallships.org or email peter.f.coleman@btinternet.com.

BRYAN FOLEY

Network targets high-achieving Welsh students

AROUND 350 pupils from schools and colleges across the Vale of Glamorgan have been selected for an initiative to encourage Wales' brightest students to apply for places at the UK's top universities.

The high-achieving students, from Barry Comprehensive, Bryn Hafren, Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg, Cardiff and Vale College, Cowbridge, Llantwit Major, St Cyres and Stanwell School will take their places on the Seren Network, which helps the highest achieving sixth formers reach their academic potential.

The students join more than 2,000 16-18 year olds across Wales that have been selected to be a part of The Seren Network since its launch in January 2015.

It follows a report by Oxbridge 'ambassador', Paul Murphy, former MP for Torfaen and now Lord Murphy, who was appointed by the Welsh Government to examine the decline in Welsh applications and admissions to Oxford and Cambridge.

It aims to increase Welsh representation not just at Oxbridge, but also at the Russell Group and Sutton Trust 30 group of universities which represent the most selective, research-led institutions.

The network has celebrated a major milestone as it its 11th – and final – regional hub was launched by the Minister for Lifelong Learning and the Welsh Language, Alun Davies, at the Vale Hotel. Representatives from institutions including Oxbridge, Bath and Cardiff were also present.

Mr Davies said: "We know that Welsh applicants to Oxford and Cambridge receive disproportionately fewer offers compared to other UK applicants, despite achieving similar GCSE and A-level grades.

"These students are our experts and future leaders, so it's vital we develop a learning environment where they can really prosper.

"It's fantastic to see so many leading universities are already engaged with Seren and supporting delivery of the regional programmes. We are very grateful to them for their ongoing support."

Local businesses in the running for 2016 Rural Oscars!

WALES' finalists in the 2016 Countryside Alliance Awards (aka the Rural Oscars) have been announced, with businesses from all over Wales going head-to-head for a national title and a shot at the British title – including some local businesses.

Slade Farm Organics in St Bride's Major has been nominated in the Farm Enterprise category and is up against businesses from Carmarthenshire, Brecon and Gower.

The awards are the Countryside Alliance's annual celebration of rural produce, skills, enterprise and heritage through our small hard-working businesses. They are now in their 12th year and have become the definitive rural business award to win.

This year they received over 7,500 nominations, meaning these finalists truly are the 'best of the best'. The awards are public nomination-led across five categories:

Local Food and Drink, Village Shop/ Post Office, Tourism Enterprise, Farm Enterprise, and Butcher.

In the 'Tourism Enterprise' section, the Welsh Hawking Centre in Barry is competing with attractions from Cardiff, Gower and Pembrokeshire.

Countryside Alliance director for Wales, Rachel Evans, commented: "This has been a record year for nominations, showing how much the public values and supports our hard working rural businessmen and women.

"For these finalists to get this far, is already a great achievement and I look forward to meeting them as judging gets under way.

"The Rural Oscars were set up to champion those who go the extra mile for their communities, and it is an honour to offer a voice to rural business in this way."

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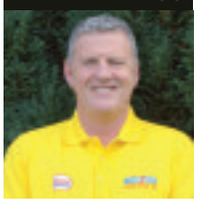
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Fresh TATA announcement is welcomed

COMMENTING on news that a deal has been secured to keep Port Talbot steelworks open, South Wales West AM, Suzy Davies, said: "Clearly 2016 has been an extremely tough time for the Port Talbot area, and I'm delighted that as we approach the new year, the picture looks much more positive.

"The next step will be to secure a viable, prosperous future for Welsh steel but to do that we need to see politicians of all parties standing together to fight the industry's corner.

"Welsh Government will also need to remain vigilant. The conditions it has rightly placed on TATA in exchange for its financial and other support need to be met for the whole period for which that support applies."

Leader of the Welsh Conservatives, Andrew RT Davies, said: "The announcement is welcome news, and proof that when people work together constructively positive results can be achieved.

"However, this isn't the end of the story and work still needs to be done to secure the long term future of this vital steel plant."

First Minister welcomes steel deal

THE recent agreement between Tata and the unions, was described as "a massive step towards securing the future of steel making in Wales."

The Welsh Government is providing over £4 million for skills and training; the first element of a wider package of support for the company to help protect jobs.

First Minister Carwyn Jones, AM for Bridgend, said it was proof of the Welsh Government's confidence in the long-term production of steel in Wales.

LOCAL VOLUNTEERING

GLAMORGAN Voluntary Services (GVS) will be hosting The BIG Volunteering Fayre on Wednesday, January 18, 2017 from 11am to 4 pm at Barry Memorial Hall. Come along to embark on a new adventure as a volunteer and open up a world of opportunities.

Hundreds to take a chilly New Year's Day dip for Headway!

by Andy Johnstone

The Barry Island New Year's Day swim is not for the faint-hearted, but because many will be doing it to raise funds for the charity Headway, it is for the big hearted.

Not so long ago, Judith Dutton, then a triathlete, would have been on the beach with the best and bravest of them, waiting to swim in the chilly waters, or at other times of the year acting as a lifeguard keeping holidaymakers safe.

However, in 2012 when she was 49, she experienced an 'acquired brain injury' (ABI).

Abruptly, her life changed forever.

An ABI can include a brain injury that has occurred since birth, as well as tumours, strokes, brain haemorrhages and encephalitis.

Its counterpart is the traumatic brain injury, or TBI. As its name suggests, it is an injury to the brain caused by a trauma to the head (head injury). There are many possible causes, including road traffic accidents, assaults, falls and accidents at home or work.

Judith told The GEM what happened to her.

"I went to bed one night in 2012, with a headache, having just booked a holiday to Australia to see my son and then...

"My next memory was some six weeks later."

She had had a massive brain haemorrhage – the 'acquired brain injury'.

Judith, who now has some difficulties with her speech, balance and walking, uses the services of Headway, the brain injury association and a registered charity.

Brain injury is often a hidden injury or disability, and can affect every aspect of life – walking, talking, thinking and feeling – and the losses can be severe and permanent. It can mean losing both the life once lived and the person one once was.

Judith Dutton.

She describes Headway, however, as a family to which she belongs and "...a real lifeline".

Judith picks up the story: "Before my injury I was a fit and active person. Things have changed a lot, but the love and companionship I get from thepeople, activities and groups I access at Headway are wonderful.

"I try to go there once a week for the activity sessions or to go to lunch with my friends.

"We're all miracles, you know." said Judith of herself and others that have endured and survived brain injuries.

She told The GEM that Rob Salter will be donating all the proceeds from the revellers and swimmers to the charity, which has some 120 local support groups around the country – including one in Bridgend and one in Cardiff – supporting the estimated one-in-64 people in the UK with a brain injury.

Kind-hearted and thinking of others before herself as ever, Judith said: "I had the chance to do lots of things (before my ABI). It's the young folk that acquire a brain injury I feel for most."

Judith is still active, and in the case of the New Year's Day swim, that means working to raise money for Headway.

Headway fundraiser Gill Peace said: "This is a great opportunity to raise funds for our community based services across south east Wales.

"We are also grateful to the Barry Island Swim organisers for the chance to make more people aware of the impacts of brain injury."

Donations to Headway Cardiff can be made through Mydonate https://mydonate.bt.com/events/barryswim2017/384512

Contact Dave Maggs, Wales development manager, on 01446 740130. Visit www.headwaycardiff.org.uk or call 029 2057 7707.

For Headway Bridgend, contact Amanda Davies on 07933 252203 or headwaybridgend@btinternet.com.

GLADSTONE INFANTS PERFORM THEIR NATIVITY TO FOUR PACKED HOUSES!

THE infant children at Gladstone Primary took part in four concerts last week, each time performing in front of a full house.

They told the story of the Nativity, accompanied by the singing of both traditional carols and modern Christmas songs, making their teachers and their parents very proud indeed!

Barnardo's group says thank you

THE Barry Barnardo's Helpers Group held its annual coffee and carols at Christmas time event at All Saints Church Hall, Barry, on Saturday, December 10.

A varied programme of musical items, singing and readings was performed by friends of Barnardo's . Coffee and mince pies were enjoyed by all. The Deputy Mayor of the Vale, the Mayor of Barry and Jane Hutt AM supported the event. The morning included a raffle and over £350 was raised which will help to support Barnardo's many projects in Wales.

A cheque for £1,500 was presented to a Barnardo's representative at the event, raised from events throughout the last year.

The committee would like to thank all of those who supported and contributed in any way to a very successful and enjoyable morning.

Mary Edmunds and Jen Morgan, Committee members Barry Barnardo's Helpers Group.

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Out & About with The GEM

SPONSORED BY MEMO #BARRYCINEMEMO www.memoartscentre.co.uk BARRY'S NEW DIGITAL CINEMA & LIVE STREAMING THEATRE

Office Christmas Party isn't worth attending

WORK Christmas parties are a staple part of workplaces around the world, so it seems surprising that it has taken until now for Hollywood to make a film about one.

Office Christmas Party (no points for the originality-lacking title) sees CEO Carol Vanstone (Jennifer Aniston) trying to to close the branch of her black-sheep brother Clay (T J Miller).

In order to rally the office staff behind him, he and right-hand man Josh (Jason Bateman) host a large-scale office Christmas party which they hope will not only impress a potential client (played by Courtney B Vance) but also close a sale that may just save their jobs...

It seems that people behaving badly is the latest fashion when it comes to big screen comedies. The likes of *Horrible Bosses* and *Bad Moms* all see usually rational people driven to acting wildly and outrageously in order to right a wrong or save something.

Office Christmas Party, then, comes wrapped in shopworn festive paper and, while perfectly diverting, doesn't offer anything fresh or innovative – instead, it simply hits the beats you expect it to and plays with a predictability that is only leavened slightly by the cast assembled.

The cast is the film's main appeal; after all the likes of Jennifer Aniston, Jason Bateman, Rob Corddry, T J Miller and Olivia Munn are all dependable and capable of adding something to even the most moribund of comedies, and so it proves here.

The characters they all play are hewn to their strengths, which is both a plus and a minus;

by GARETH JAMIESON
Follow Screen Talk on Twitter – @GEMScreenTalk

Aniston's steely yet mischievous CEO, Bateman's warm-hearted yet put-upon right hand man, Miller's partying, intellectually-flawed boss are all variants on a theme, both in terms of the characters they usually play and the kind of characters that inevitably pop up in films of this ilk.

The performances are fine and work well within this setting, but there's nothing going against type, nothing to really linger after the film aside from Kate McKinnon's performance as HR harridan Mary.

The *Saturday Night Live* performer has already waltzed away with *Ghostbusters* this year, and makes it two with this film, her performance and the character's idiosyncrasies hilarious and by far the best thing on offer here.

Directors Josh Gordon and Will Speck are most well-known for the Will Ferrell ice skating comedy *Blades of Glory*, but fail to really ignite the film with any degree of verve. The comedy set-pieces are predictable and wholly expected (how many times must characters be involved in crashes and accidents while emerging unscathed purely for 'laughs') and they're unable to elevate the serviceable story elements into something interesting.

The story comes from the brains of the *Hangover* trilogy, yet they're very much on the form that saw them deliver two diminishing sequels rather than the hilarious first one, and, interestingly, there's very little of the film that relies on the Christmas setting to work – take it out of the seasonal context and the story wouldn't require much rejigging at all.

So it's quite short of seasonal joy, but ultimately *Office Christmas Party* is fast food comedy, designed to fill a gap but do nothing more than that. It's nothing spectacular, but thanks to the efforts of the cast, it makes it more watchable than it should be.

VERDICT: A damp squib of a film, *Office Christmas Party* fails to sparkle, carried away by the charm of its cast, in particular Kate McKinnon's film-stealing turn. Pedestrian and run-of-the-mill, the cast do their best and just about pull it through but there's little to (Christmas) cheer about here. *Poor*.

SEE THIS IF YOU LIKED: *Bad Santa* (2003), *Horrible Bosses* (2011).

Go to Glamorgan-GEM.co.uk on Friday to see Gareth's verdict on the latest Star Wars film, Rogue One.

'Will it be the final Countdown' for Vale TV quiz star Andrew Fenton?

by GEM REPORTER

A Vale sales director is to star in a Channel 4 Countdown quarter-final next week.

Andrew Fenton (40) who works for Chris Davies Estate Agents takes part in the last quarter final in the current series on Tuesday, December 20 at 2.10pm.

The first quarter final will be broadcast today, Thursday, December 15, at 2.10pm.

Andrew, who lives in Rhoose, told The GEM: "I was on the show earlier this year when the series' heats were broadcast.

"I went to Salford Quays in Manchester and won eight games on the trot, making me an Octochamp, and winning me a place in the quarter-finals."

In fact, Andrew's most difficult opponent was in his first match.

"In my first game it was very, very tight against Norm Ahmad, who was an accountant and computer whizz. It went right down to the wire."

Andrew with one of the Countdown hosts Rachel Riley.

Andrew won 95 - 93. In the other seven matches he had comfortable victories.

Countdown is a British TV institution and has been running for 32 years and the current series is the 75th one.

Andrew is the 'fifth seed' in the quarter finals and due to play John Shaw who is seeded four.

Andrew said that the programme's hosts, Nick Hewer and Rachel Riley, are lovely people who make the contestants feel relaxed and welcome.

The semi finals will be aired on the Wednesday, December 21 and Thursday, December 22, with the final on Friday, December 23.

Your guide to local Christmas services

LOCAL Christmas services (people can visit the Facebook page 'Vale of Glamorgan Methodist Circuit' for further information).

Cadoxton: Friday, December 16 from 3.30pm making Christingles for the Christingle service that follows; Sunday, December 18 at 9.45am, family carols, 5pm traditional carol service with Tenovus choir; Sunday, December 25 at 9.45am, Christmas worship for the whole church family.

Barry Uniting Church at the Waterfront: Sunday, December 18, 10.30am, traditional carol service; 6pm Nativity led by the junior church; Saturday, December 24, 4pm, Christingle service; Sunday, December 25, 10am, Christmas worship for the whole church family.

Dinas Powys: Sunday, December 18, 10.30am, creative Christmas – Christmas Worship with crafts and singing; 6pm, traditional lessons and carols; Sunday, December 25, 10.45am, a short gathering to celebrate Christ's birth (you are invited to bring and show a gift).

Saint Athan, The Gathering Place Church and Community Centre: Sunday, December 18, 10.30am, Christingle and carols; Christmas Day, 10am, all age worship.

Crossway, Barry: Sunday, December 18, 11am, Nativity with Pukka, and 4pm lessons and carols; *Christmas Day, at St David's*.

Saint David's, Barry: Sunday, December 18, 6pm 'lessons and carols'; Christmas Eve, from 11pm, midnight holy communion; Christmas Day, 9.45am, worship for all the family.

St John, Barry Island: Sunday, December 18, 4pm Christingle service; *Christmas Day at St David's*.

Contact the ministers for more information.

For Cadoxton, Dinas and The Waterfront, Revs Carole and Phil Challis 01446 678730.

For Crossway, St David's, St John and St Athan, Rev Peter Taylor or Deacon Samantha Taylor, 01446 406262.

For Penarth area, contact Rev Phyl Fanning on 02920 710919.

Ty Hafan lottery draw winners

THE following are winning numbers in the Ty Hafan Crackerjackpot lottery draw number D961

- **£2,000:** 808684.
- **The rollover, which now stands at £9,500, was not won this week.**
- **£10:** 263261, 802561, 131227, 687409, 140212, 790151, 938920, 503205, 751520, 575456, 322796, 401920, 261613, 707179, 808431, 270146, 835675, 417735, 753233, 162523.
- **£5:** 288958, 124094, 395264, 489149, 292818, 222361, 123801, 388263, 869439, 366617, 251876, 752948, 996777, 208840, 246780, 299387, 617725, 419895, 768787, 432478, 446195, 596550, 851128, 195881, 876197, 375173, 169791, 710280, 109726, 725865, 527721, 618051, 417628, 327330, 245720, 714799, 146153, 445533, 153826, 668513, 462402, 862333, 970465, 188050, 778816, 626492, 656697, 628306, 318067, 178044, 211477, 731514, 174222, 108122, 966876, 210082, 001072, 000449, 1438269, 1539552.

The GEM cannot be held responsible for any errors or omissions contained in the above.

For lottery information please telephone 029 2053 2300.

WHAT'S ON, AND WHERE?

Cowbridge Country Market

THE market wishes all its friends and supporters a happy Christmas: it is open on December 16 and 20 for your final chance to stock up on last minute delights.

A full range of produce and craft items will be available on both days in the Lesser Hall from 9.30am – 11.30am.

Empty jam jars are welcome ahead of our marmalade making in January!

Councillors' surgery

LLANTWIT First Independent Councillors will hold a surgery at the Heritage Centre, Town Hall, Llantwit Major on Saturday, December 17 from 9.30am to 11.30am. Residents with any issue to raise are welcome to attend.

Llantwit Bowls coffee

THERE will be a coffee morning in Llantwit Major Bowls Club Pavilion on Saturday, December 17 at 10am till 12pm. Entrance £3 includes a cup of tea and a mince pie and a free top-up. There will be a cake stall and book stall, everyone is welcome.

Barry church's sing-along

ON December 18 at 6pm, Barry Spiritualist Church, Buttrills Road is celebrating the holiday period with a festive sing-along.

During the service there will be a presentation of snowflakes, which is this year's theme, with messages to loved ones in spirit written on them to place on the Christmas tree. The festivities will be followed by refreshments and chatter.

Festive meal

CADOXTON Youth Project presents a free Christmas meal at Cadoxton Methodist Church, Church Road, Barry (CF63 1JY) on December 20 from 6pm – 9pm.

It supports Marie Curie and Ty Hafan, as well as YMCA and Y-Care International. There will be a colouring competition, free selection box for children, and a visit by Santa (children under 16 must be accompanied by a responsible adult).

Reserve space by December 19 on 01446 734414 or call at 97 Main Street.

Valeways walks

ON Wednesday, December 21 at 10am, Clychau, canhwyllau a chinio'r Dolig, Llyfrgell Y Bontfaen, CF71 7 AH.

On Wednesday, December 21 at 10.30am, the coffee shop strollers meet at Cosmeston Country Park outside the visitor centre.

Also on December 21 at 2.30pm, the Llantwit Major coffee shop strollers meet at Llantwit Major Town Hall car park.

On Wednesday, January 28 at 10.30am, the Barry coffee shop strollers meet at Romilly Cafe, Cold Knap.

On Sunday, January 1 at 1.30pm, a New Year's Day walk starts at St Peter's Church, Mill Road, Dinas Powys.

Festive outing

A FULL bus of members from 'Friends and Neighbours' spent the day at Blooms Garden Centre enjoying the festive decorations and displays.

They enjoyed a Christmas two-course lunch in the restaurant and are now looking forward to their Christmas party at Brynhll Golf Club. Contact 01446 400044 for further information.

PACT Meetings in January

PORTHCAWL WEST CENTRAL PACT at Trinity Church on Tuesday, January 3 at 7pm.

FELINDRE, HENDRE, PENPRYSG (PENCOED) & COYCHURCH PACT at Pencoed Library, Pencoed at 2pm on Monday, January 16.

MORFA TOWN PACT at Penybont Primary School, Minerva Street on Monday, January 16 at 6.30pm.

LITCHARD, PENDRE & COITY PACT at Litchard Mission, Litchard on Thursday, January 19 at 7pm.

REST BAY & NOTTAGE PACT at Nottage Scout Hall, Nottage on Tuesday, January 24 at 8pm.

BRACKLA PACT at Brackla Junior School, Brackla Way, Thursday, January 26 at 6.30pm.

Dinas Boxing Day walk

THE traditional Dinas Powys Boxing Day Walk will start at 10am from Dinas Powys Village Square.

All walkers are welcome, as are well behaved dogs on a lead.

It's a free guided countryside walk through fields and woods, so boots or wellies are a must.

STUDENTS BRING BARD'S WORDS TO LIFE

Manon Keeble and Steffan Leonard.

ABOVE: Harvey Jones with Lady Inkin (branch vice – chairwoman).

Photographs by
KEITH E MORGAN

ABOVE: Marjorie Page, Corienne James, Emily James, Evan Laidler, and Clare Booth (Evan's mother).

"*ONCE more into the breach, dear friends, once more …*" **resounded from the stage as Evan Laidler, of Brynteg Comprehensive School, transported members of the south Wales branch of the English Speaking Union to October 25, 1415 and Shakespeare's *Henry V*'s resounding call to arms at the battle of Agincourt.**

...Back to the present scene, the Christmas lunch for branch members at the Cardiff City Stadium, where the young winners of both the Welsh and UK finals of the ESU 'Performing Shakespeare' competition were regaling the audience with excerpts.

Evan, who has appeared in *Fiddler on the Roof* at the Bridgend Youth Theatre, was in one of three presentations that highlighted the dramatic talent in Welsh schools.

Emily Rose James, from King Henry VIII school, Abergavenny, truly captured the complicated scenario as Viola in *Twelfth Night* where Viola loves her master Orsino, who loves the handsome Cesario – who is not a man at all, but Viola in disguise!

Manon Keeble and Steffan Leonard, from Ysgol Bryntawe, Swansea, have won awards in two national finals, performing the duologue as Stephano and Trinculo from *The Tempest*, and as Katherine and Petruchio from *The Taming of the Shrew*, the latter being their choice for this occasion.

Ena Davies, who has been the driving force behind the development of the Performing Shakespeare competition for the branch, was presented with a Christmas floral basket in recognition of her success in ensuring that our student representatives went on to win in each of the UK finals, with this year's being held at the Gielgud Theatre in London.

This was also an opportunity to listen to Harvey Jones, treasurer of Ty Cariad Africa, a local charity which provides orphans and vulnerable children in Uganda with shelter and access to education.

With the appointment of teacher Juliette Mirembe at St Kizito Junior School in Kampala, our branch has funded the English language reading material which will help to improve the children's speaking skills and confidence in conversing in what is the universal language.

Money raised at branch social events fund the Welsh Schools' public speaking competitions at primary and secondary levels, as well as the Performing Shakespeare competition, and 2017 promises to be a vintage year with three prestigious speakers already booked.

They are Professor Sir David Omand, former head of GCHQ, on February 7; Lord Butler of Brockwell, former private secretary to five Prime Ministers, on April 28; and Lord Williams of Baglan, former deputy director of the United Nations, on June 15.

Further details are available from Derek Morgan, branch chairman, on 10656 669129; email esuswb@gmail.com.

What to do if you smell gas…

AS *Christmas nears, Wales & West Utilities are reminding people across the area of steps to take if they smell gas during the holiday season.*

Head of emergency service, Clive Book, said: "If you smell gas, or are worried about gas safety, you can call 0800 111 999 at any time, day or night, 365 days a year. The call is free. Just pick up the phone, dial the number and you will be put through to a trained operator, who will take all the details and send an emergency engineer to help you."

He explained that all calls to the National Gas Emergency Service are recorded and may be monitored, and advised: "If you smell gas, call free on 0800 111 999 and turn off the gas at the meter, unless the meter is located in a cellar or basement – in which case, do not enter.

"If there is a smell of gas in the cellar or basement, evacuate the building immediately; put out all naked flames, don't smoke or strike matches; turn off all gas appliances and do not use again until they are checked by the engineer.

"Do not operate any electrical appliances or turn any switches on or off; open doors and windows to ventilate the property; evacuate the building as soon as you can and keep people away from the area."

CAROLS, MINCE PIES, MULLED WINE FESTIVE LIGHTS – AND SANTA CLAUS!

ON the evening of December 4, villagers in Peterston-super-Ely gathered outside the Three Horseshoes pub for the switching-on of the Christmas lights – by Santa Claus hinself.

Carols were sung, mulled wine was drunk, mince pies munched, all while Santa handed out gifts to the children.

It was a great way of marking the beginning of Christmas celebrations in the village.

Photographs by
IAN DIXON

Christmas memorial tree

PENARTH Funeral Directors' Christmas memorial tree is available for those wishing to dedicate personal messages to their loved ones.

A spokesman said: "Call in or phone 02920 703581 with your dedication. Our chapel is available for you to light a candle and sit in quiet reflection. We have launched a new initiative, the Family Involved Funeral, which features on our new website *www.penarthfuneraldirectors.com*.

"This unique funeral option offers families the opportunity to take more active roles in the arranging and delivery of the funeral.

"Feeling more involved in the actual service has been found to help with the grieving process and can also bring financial benefits, to those concerned with rising funeral costs. We created this innovative option after signing up to the Fair Funerals Pledge.

"Each month, Penarth Funeral Directors makes a significant financial donation to a local charity and have chosen the Salvation Army as the recipient of our December offering."

Penarth Funeral Directors
Hickman Road Funeral Home

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POPULAR, established funeral directors in the heart of the community, Lyndsay Ellis and his wife Nicola exclusively care for loved ones and bereaved families at The Vale Funeral Service, based at 181 Court Road, Cadoxton.

They are renowned for their personal and professional attention to detail, and for giving loved ones and their families a first class and impeccable service.

Lyndsay and Nicki are privileged to accommodate the well known former family name of W Spickett & Son, the oldest family Funeral Directors in Barry established in 1837, together with their parent company Pidgeons Of Cardiff.

Lyndsay explained: "We continue with our family ethos to serve our families to the highest of standards we are known for.

"From the moment you contact us, we will be there for you and will stay with you every step of the way during your difficult time.

"We aim to give care and compassion in dealing with the bereaved family requirements and appreciate that each funeral takes on a different role. No two funerals are the same, as each loved one deserves a personal tribute.

"It is a rare privilege to be a funeral director, to stand in a sensitive position at a crucial time in the midst of your family, knowing that the high standards of our service and reputation will help you through the most difficult time in your lives.

"We cannot make the pain from losing a loved one go away, but through our efforts, our hope is to make the journey of grief less lonely and perhaps a little easier."

"I can assure clients that we are always here to provide a 24-hour service, seven days a week, 52 weeks of the year, including bank Holidays and Christmas Day. There is always a member of our staff available to talk to."

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Coping with Bereavement

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WHEN a person dies, someone, usually a family member, has the responsibility of dealing with that person's estate.

This may include establishing what assets and liabilities that person had and working out whether a 'Grant of Probate' will be needed to administer the estate.

This is a daunting task under normal circumstances, but for many people may feel a great deal more burdensome mixed with feelings of grief and distress.

Usually the first thing to do is to establish whether there is a will in existence and to make a note of the fact that the estate is to be distributed in accordance with that will.

A will may be held with the solicitor that drew it up or in a safe custody box with a bank.

A personal representative is usually appointed in the will to deal with the deceased person's estate, also known as an executor.

A Grant of Probate is issued by the Probate Registry, upon the submission of certain information based on the person's estate.

It gives the personal representative authority to deal with the deceased person's estate and allows them to access money held in banks, building societies or other investments.

It also authorises the personal representative to sell the deceased person's home.

Once all funds have been collected in and all commitments have been paid, the personal representative may distribute the estate to the beneficiaries, as set out in the will – or if no will, then in accordance with the rules of intestacy, which are a set of rules setting out who is to benefit.

The personal representative may also have to deal with the payment of inheritance tax, if the estate exceeds the current threshold.

Other responsibilities may include defending a claim against the estate, should this arise.

Passmores offers a sympathetic and efficient service when dealing with probate and estate administration.

If you live or work in Barry, Cardiff or the Vale of Glamorgan and would like further information, ask to speak to our specialist Carli Evans on 01446 721000 or ce@passmores.com today.

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Coping with Bereavement

GEM ADVERTISEMENT FEATURE

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AN EXPERT'S ADVICE COULD AVOID DISPUTE

BRENDAN SWEENEY, of David Prosser & Co Solicitors, writes:

It is estimated that 60 per cent of the UK population do not have a Will.

A Will takes effect on your death and is an instruction as to what is to happen to your estate.

Probate disputes and challenges to Wills are becoming a growth area, which often leads to substantial costs.

We now live in a world where family relationships are often very complex, and expert advice regarding the drafting of a Will is essential.

A professional advisor can also advise you in relation to inheritance tax, and how you plan to minimise potential liabilities to inheritance tax

It is important that people are fully aware of their duties and financial responsibilities when they make a Will, to ensure that they comply with the technicalities that are required to have a valid Will.

The cost of a professionally-drafted Will, after taking advice, is considerably less than the costs that can be incurred if there is a dispute regarding your financial affairs after your death.

Substantial costs can also be saved by taking professional advice early, and putting in place Powers of Attorney – whereby you appoint trusted people to make decisions about your property and financial affairs and health and welfare, if your lose capacity.

The people appointed are made fully aware of their rights and responsibilities.

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If members of the family wish to contribute with poetry, readings, or specific requests, we can provide a person to set the framework for the service. Alternatively, our officiant, having gathered details of the deceased, will plan a service directly related to his or her life.

There are also a number of ministers and priests of different denominations, both men and women, located throughout Cardiff, Newport and Dinas Powys who work with us in providing these services.

Alternatively, we are happy to work with the minister or lay officiant of the family's choice.

Our aim is to provide the funeral that the family requests. We are willing to provide only the coffin, leaving the family to provide the rest, or to conduct the complete funeral in a professional way.

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Family-run funeral service for the local community

ROBERT D Johnson Funeral Directors aim to offer local families, who require funeral services and bereavement care, the highest level of personal attention.

Already with a great breadth of experience in the industry, Robert Johnson opened Robert D Johnson Independent Funeral Directors at 29 Holton Road, Barry. Working alongside Robert, a fully-qualified and experienced independent funeral director, will be daughter Lisa who is the company's funeral arranger and, under her father's guidance, is studying to achieve the industry's professional qualifications.

Robert is delighted that Lisa is helping him establish a 'family firm', providing Barrians with a personal and professional service.

With his experience and being focused on his local community, Robert feels he can deliver a truly personal service to ensure all funerals are tailored to a bereaved family's requirements and, just as importantly, to their budget.

The company can be contacted 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and Robert adds: "We will ensure that we are available at all times to meet a family's needs."

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Coping with Bereavement

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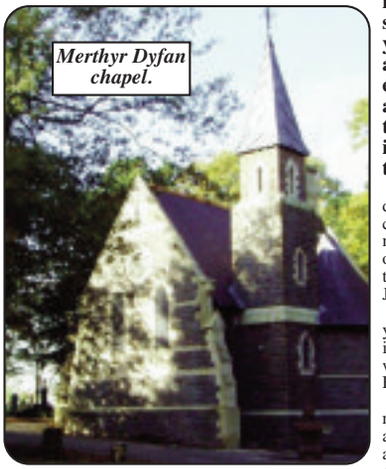
New memorial is arriving at Merthyr Dyfan cemetery



Merthyr Dyfan chapel.

BARRY Town Council is in the process of purchasing a new service to the bereaved at Merthyr Dyfan cemetery.

This new service will be a 'Columbarium', a stunning 32-vault circular memorial. Each individual niche of the Columbarium can accommodate three sets of cremated remains and offers the bereaved the opportunity to have an inscription on the slate tablet.

The Town Council has placed the order for the Columbarium and anticipates its delivery in April 2017.

For further information on this service, contact 01446 704920; staff will be happy to talk to you.

Good legal advice can give you peace of mind

COPING with the loss of a family member, or someone close to you, can be difficult and during this emotional time arrangements need to be made and important decisions taken.

Although this can be a daunting prospect, you can ensure that you do not leave your loved ones in the dark, with the help of Anthony and Jarvie Solicitors.

Making a Will allows you to clearly state who inherits your assets as well as appointing an Executor of your choice.

An Executor may be required to cash in assets, sell your home, and deal with any debts and tax matters.

Taking legal advice can also help you with complex family situations, and if needed, provide inheritance tax advice and look at potentially minimising any tax liability.

After a loved one has died, it can be helpful and reassuring to have someone on hand who understands the legal processes involved.

Probate is often long and complex, and the duties of an executor/administrator to correctly deal with an Estate can be very onerous.

Taking legal advice regarding Wills, or following a death, can prevent mistakes being made, provide you with valuable advice, relieve pressure, and give you (and those you leave behind) peace of mind.

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Barry Town Council

MERTHYR DYFAN CEMETERY

Barry Town Council will be offering a new service due in April 2017.

A stunning 32 vault circular memorial.

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Coping with Bereavement

As the song says...
'No one is alone'

IN Stephen Sondheim's great musical, *Into The Woods*, one stand-out song, 'No one is Alone' is on the subject of bereavement.

The characters who sing it have all lost a loved one, and they find the strength to go on by realising that they don't have to face the uncertain future alone.

From this writer's point of view, it has never failed to bring a tear to my eye.

The preceding pages in this special feature emphasise what good advice is available – whether you are planning for the future, or dealing with an unexpected tragedy.

Professional and compassionate advice, whether it be from a funeral director, or a solicitor, can make all the difference.

However, as time moves on, many people find it hard to get back on an even emotional keel, and that is when voluntary organisations can be really important.

The best known, perhaps, is Cruse, which has a national website: *www.cruse.org.uk* and a national helpline: *0808 808 1677*.

On a more local level, Cruse has an enquiry line: 029 2022 6166, which is open on Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings from 10am to 12 noon.

An answerphone is available at other times.

PHILIP IRWIN

Howells Solicitors' Wendy Hobbs with the children of Jenner Park Primary.

Cardiff author visits Barry school

CHILDREN'S author and former property lawyer, Wendy Hobbs, visited Jenner Park Primary School in Barry on December 13, to present each pupil with a copy of 'Claudia's Special Wish' – donated by Howells Solicitors – and read excerpts from it.

'Claudia's Special Wish' is a Christmas story written by Wendy at the request of Dreams & Wishes, a non-profit local charity that helps seriously ill children and their families.

All profits from the sale of the book will be used to help grant the dreams and wishes of these children.

The visit was organised by Howells Solicitors who invited local schools to request a visit from the children's author. Jenner Park Primary School was chosen because of the "collective efforts and hard work of the staff, parents and pupils to provide a good education."

Caring Jan nominated for top national award

A MOTHER who created her own support group after she contracted a rare condition which caused her brain to outgrow her skull has been shortlisted for a national award.

Jan Hampson, 53, from Dinas Powys, is one of just three people from across the UK to be named a finalist for the Alex Richardson Achiever of the Year award – sponsored by Slater & Gordon Lawyers.

The accolade will be presented at a ceremony organised by Headway – the brain injury association – in the Dorchester Hotel in London tomorrow (Friday, December 16).

In 2011, Jan was diagnosed with a brain malformation, which if left unchecked, could have resulted in paralysis. She underwent surgery to remove part of the skull to alleviate the condition and spent nearly eight weeks in hospital before she embarked upon a slow, uphill journey to recovery.

Despite feeling she had lost almost everything that she enjoyed from her previous lifestyle she refused to give up and with the help of Headway Cardiff, she rebuilt her life.

Jan said: "I had a very active and rewarding outgoing lifestyle before the operation. I loved cycling, rock climbing, caving, scuba diving, sea kayaking and motorcycling – among other things – these took up almost every minute of my spare time. "

"My life has changed and it has devastated my family's life, and changed it forever. We make the best of things; I am still here and we do what we can."

Jan was nominated by Headway Cardiff for her work setting up a social group called Brainy Friends.

Jan said: "I felt there was room for more social occasions in addition to those provided by Headway Cardiff, and it seemed like a good way to spend time with the new friends I had made there.

"I know of our daily struggles and that it can be very isolating, so when we are together we can be ourselves without being judged."

Jan said she was shocked to be shortlisted for the award. She said: "It's a real honour and I'm gobsmacked to be honest. I just love doing it and seeing my friends having so much fun makes me so happy."

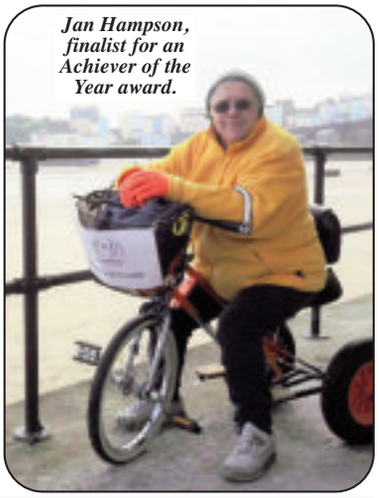
Jan was nominated by Headway Cardiff's chief executive, Rebecca Pearce.

She said: "When you get to know Jan, you realise that if you were to pick a friend, she is exactly the sort of friend you would want – very plain speaking and honest, she tells you how it really is, and is also incredibly loyal and caring."

Each year, the Headway Annual Awards celebrate the exceptional efforts of survivors of brain injury and their carers.

Jan will discover if she is to be named Alex Richardson Achiever of the Year at a ceremony in London, on Friday, December 16.

Awards for Volunteer and Carer of the Year will also be presented, alongside the Stephen McAleese Outstanding Contribution to Headway Award.



Jan Hampson, finalist for an Achiever of the Year award.

Jo's students shine

A BUSY and successful term has been completed by local youngsters, all of whom have music lessons with Barry-based teacher Jo Weaving.

Following their success at the 2015 Music in the Vale Competition, recorder duo, Jack Ollier and Benedict Griffin, referred to as 'the Dynamic Duo' by one concert goer, have accepted several engagements this term, including performing in this year's Cowbridge Music Festival, the Senydd and a charity concert in Porthcawl.

Jack and Benedict entered the 2016 Music in the Vale Competition where they were highly commended in the ensemble section for their performances of *Allegro* by Mozart and the theme from *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang*.

Jack competed as a soloist in the intermediate class, performing to an extremely high standard on piano, clarinet and recorder, and won the prize for the most promising instrumentalist from across the whole competition.

Harrison Ollier (8) entered the junior class of the competition for the first time, playing the guitar. He was highly commended for his playing.

Several students have sat ABRSM exams in recent months and all have passed with flying colours.

Passes were awarded to Jemima Whiffen for grade 3 piano and Amy Hickery for grade 6 piano.

Merits were awarded to Benedict Griffin for grade 3 recorder and Jack Ollier for grade 7 clarinet. Merits were also awarded to Hannah Mitchem and Elysia Hickery, and a distinction was awarded to Samuel Griffin, for grade 5 theory.

Finally, Honor Hopkin sat her piano prep test and received outstanding comments for her playing.

Many students are members their school ensembles, as well as various county music ensembles, including the junior schools, foundation and high school orchestras where they all participate in weekly rehearsals, and in concerts performed in venues such as St David's Hall.

Jo said: "Being able to play a musical instrument is such a lovely skill to have. All my students work very hard and it's lovely being able to witness their progress on a weekly basis."

Free exhibition

BARRY'S Canon Hill Art Centre will hold a two-day Christmas event featuring the work of artist Glyn Pooley, Carl Battle (knitwear) and Barbra Archdale-Smith (local photography).

It takes place on December 17-18 (10am-4pm); free admission, plus complimentary raffle ticket on entry, with a chance to win a prize from one of the exhibitors.

CHRISTMAS at
Bethel Baptist Church

Sunday 18th December, 10.30am
FAMILY SERVICE

Sunday 18th December, 6pm
CAROL SERVICE

For God so loved the world He gave His one and only Son that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life
John 3:16

Wednesday 21st December, 10.30am
COFFEE & CAROLS

Saturday 24th December, 6.00pm
CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

Sunday 25th December, 10.00am
CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE

Bethel Baptist Church, Harbour Road, Barry
www.bethelbarry.org

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Of cucumbers, flea bites and clinging to power at all costs

READER'S VIEW
Barrie David Corcoran

SINCE Britain voted for Brexit, I've watched countless TV debates where the reaction is either jubilation or despair.

I have yet to see any serious debate about how, after more than four decades, the EU has evolved to what it is now.

It began as the Common Market, where, joining meant the simple abolition of trading tariffs to the mutual benefit of its six member states.

The writing on the wall began when Commissioners in Brussels began stipulating such absurdities as how the bend in cucumbers should all be identical. Instead of politicians, and citizens, "shouting what is this bullshine?"with typical British patience we were amused, and above all indulgent.

Since then, while 27 more countries have joined up, this indulgence has prevailed via successive governments to the point where Commissioners watch us endure six years of gruelling austerity, observe a slight improvement in our economy then demand, AND receive, a mammoth increase of two billion euros in our contributions.

In the ebb and flow of commerce with the EU this is, of course, a financial flea bite – but tell that to the people who have three feet of sludge in their living room, because we can't afford adequate flood defences.

In my opinion, Brexit was a David Cameron venture in PR that was never intended to actually happen, a one-way closed door never to be opened again, orchestrated with a bland 'yes or no' vote that would have done well to offer a third option. Renegotiation!

What it HAS done is stir to the surface the immense discontent with member states, such as Greece, Italy, and France not far behind, all yearning for change.

Standing like a colossus over everything is the IMF, the wealthiest bank on the planet, who continually bale everybody out, including Britain, where every news bulletin I watch portrays the dire reality of our economy with an endless agenda – ranging from child poverty to prisons we can't afford to build, from the NHS, to radical cutbacks in the thing that, above all, keeps us safe – our armed forces.

In an age where centuries of conflict in Europe has (hopefully) ended via the growth of the EU, in real terms it's become an economic free-for-all ,where individual 'national interest' will always compromise change that could better the lives of millions, most of all those who perish in the Mediterranean seeking, not a better life, but life itself.

Summing up, Brexit was a protest against aspects outlined above that will resolve absolutely nothing.

As I see it, the way forward, if there is to be a way forward, is a collective, long overdue challenge by member states and their people against the handful who wield mammoth power – yet still think in terms of two things – cucumbers, and retaining their power at any cost.

Parkinson's sufferers urged

'Make sure you get support'

PARKINSON'S sufferers in the Vale of Glamorgan are being urged to make the most of the local support services available.

The number of people with Parkinson's is not currently recorded by health services in Wales, but it is estimated that there are 265 sufferers in the Vale, based on current prevalence figures.

Parkinson's UK local advisers offer free confidential advice and support, and the Vale's local advisor is Delyth Pritchard. The Vale of Glamorgan Support Group meets at 2pm on the first Tuesday of the month at Murchfield Community Hall, Dinas Powys, and offers friendship, peer support and a range of activities.

The South Wales Central AM Andrew RT Davies has joined the call for sufferers to make the most of the benefits they provide.

"Parkinson's is a truly awful disease that has a huge impact on sufferers' lives – as well as those of their friends and families. Here in the Vale, Parkinson's UK do a lot of good work to provide them with support, be it through local advisor Delyth Pritchard or the Vale of Glamorgan Support Group," he said.

"Having seen their services in action, I would strongly urge sufferers to make the most of them and seek any support they need."

A mild winter complicates life in the beehive

News from the Fonmon Apiary ***by Harold Williams***

ALTHOUGH my visits to the apiary are not as frequent now, and internal inspections have ceased so as not to cause undue disturbance to the colonies that are supposedly settling down for winter, thanks to the mild conditions all of the colonies are still very active.

Foragers can be observed returning with pollen in abundance. Theoretically each colony should now be in a cluster (ball) and remain so until the spring of the next year.

This cluster is a survival tactic, very little in the way of food is required and movement is undertaken only to access stored food or to better control the internal temperature of the hive.

Activity is related to food consumption, so the less the activity, the longer the stored food supply should last.

For some years now we have had winters that have been mild, with some wet days and some dry days.

Freezing temperatures have not lasted long and with temperatures as they are now in the 'teens ie 10 to 12 centigrade, the bees have sallied forth in search of what they must assume to be spring blossoms to exploit.

As we are aware, there are some blooms in existence that should not be; what little there is, cannot support an active colony, so they do rely on the in-house stores – bringing us full circle to the link between activity and food.

To further complicate the situation, thanks to the mild winters, we have queens still laying when they should have ceased to do so a couple of months back. As a result, we now have larvae that require sustenance, ie food!

So, instead of a colony settled for winter we have a colony responding to the current conditions and remaining active.

All very confusing, I know, but remember – it is the weather that dominates the bees' world.

Will the changing weather patterns bring about a change to our established beekeeping activities?

Who knows? It is incumbent upon the beekeeper to keep a closer watch than normal throughout the so-called winter months. Colony losses, due to prolonged harsh weather, were once the main worry. Losses now will be due to lack of sufficient food resources.

We do, of course, still have the varroa problem to contend with and, as they live in very close harmony with the bees, a laying queen means larvae. This in its turn provides a breeding site for varroa.

For the latest stories and breaking news... glamorgan-gem.co.uk

'Move to a proper Welsh Parliament is long overdue' – Tory leader

CALLS for the National Assembly's name to be changed are 'long overdue, but welcome' according to Welsh Conservative Leader, Andrew RT Davies.

On December 8, the Presiding Officer launched a consultation asking the people of Wales how its name could be changed to reflect its role and increased responsibilities.

Mr Davies first called for the Assembly's name to be changed in 2012, in a piece for *The Guardian*.

The South Wales Central regional AM has long called for the Assembly to be a 'proper Welsh Parliament', not least because it would strengthen the distinction between the legislature and executive and boost public awareness of where accountability lies.

Mr Davies said: "The time has come for Wales's devolved institution to lose the 'Assembly' tag and brand itself as a proper Welsh Parliament – strengthening the distinction between legislature and executive, while giving it the accolade the people of Wales afforded it in the 2011 referendum.

"The process for this to happen is very simple. One small amendment to the Government of Wales Act 2006 would be all that needs to change the National Assembly for Wales into the Welsh Parliament.

"No expensive rebrand, no new buildings, no new protocol – but what a statement it would be!"

What do GEM readers think?

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Aston Martin CEO addresses Welsh Automotive dinner

THE Aston Martin top team addressed the Welsh Automotive dinner at the Vale Resort recently, and Aston Martin CEO Andy Palmer was the keynote speaker. He spoke about the 750 jobs they will creating in Wales at the St Athan site with three times that many in the supply chain, and that the cars will be labelled 'Made in Wales.'

Leper window causes interest for ramblers

The leper window at Holy Trinity Church, Marcross.

ON December 6, Vale Ramblers held one of our regular walks with a historical bent, this time led by Margaret Scott.

Our first stop was at the medieval church of St Mary in Monknash followed by a visit to Holy Trinity Church in Marcross with its 14th-century tower and leper window, which provided a viewing point for church services from a safe distance.

Nash Lighthouse was an ideal spot for a coffee break, before our trek along the coastal path to St Donat's Church. We were so busy chatting we managed to miss the bus and walked back to The Horseshoe Inn in Marcross.

Our next history walk will be in January in the Margam area. Next Sunday's walk, our last of the year, will be in Cardiff Bay. Please see www.valeofglamorganramblers.co.uk for more details.

You can also find us on Facebook where you can 'like' our page to get notifications. **JB**

Double bill of entertainment at Llancarfan Primary school!

Infants' line-up.

Juniors.

PARENTS, friends and family were treated to two Christmas productions at Llancarfan Primary School last week.

As always, the infant children enchanted the audience with their lovely version of the nativity story, Born in a Barn (a school spokesperson reports).

The children were in fine voice and all the hard work and effort put into the last few weeks of rehearsals certainly paid off, they all used very loud voices for everyone to hear and enjoy their speaking parts and they also sang beautifully. The junior performance of Cinderella & Rockerfella was also a massive hit and the audience demanded two encores!

The talent we have here at Llancarfan is truly outstanding and our parents deserve to be extremely proud of the children's performances.

Congratulations and thank you to all the staff involved and to the parents for your support and appreciation of the children's talents.

Merry Christmas and happy New Year from everyone at Llancarfan Primary School!

Will you surprise an older person in hospital with a festive gift box?

SINCE 2013, elderly patients on wards at Cardiff and Vale University Health Board (UHB) have been getting an extra surprise at Christmas courtesy of Sally's Gift.

Sally Hayward was a physiotherapist who worked in Llandough Hospital for 29 years.

She died from cancer in October 2013.

In Sally's memory, her friends and colleagues organise an annual collection of shoeboxes and gift bags filled with gifts to give to elderly patients who are in University Hospital Llandough at Christmas, who may not have family and friends visiting over the festive period.

In 2015, physiotherapy staff delivered nearly 300 gifts to patients at University Hospital Llandough, University Hospital of Wales, St David's Hospital, The Barry Hospital and a nursing home in Cardiff.

You can help by making up a shoebox or gift bag for someone at Christmas. How to make your gift bag or box: the bag or box needs to be wrapped or decorated in a way that it can be opened before being given to a patient, in order to ensure it is suitable for individual patients;

Fill your bag or box with either items for a man, woman or unisex and label accordingly;

Examples of items to include – toiletries, toothbrush, toothpaste, flannel, a puzzle book, bed socks and tissues

Guide price for your shoebox is a maximum of £10.

If you don't want to make up a shoebox but have some items to donate we would be happy to receive them

Completed shoe boxes or gift bags need to be delivered to the Physiotherapy Department at any of the hospital sites in Cardiff and Vale UHB, by Friday, December 16.

They will be delivered to the wards from Wednesday, December 21.

Contact Cath Marshall or Alison Lloyd on UHL extension 25443/ 02920 715443.

The Vale of Glamorgan Council
(CEMETERY ROAD, BARRY (PART)) (ROAD CLOSURE) (TEMPORARY) ORDER 2017

The Vale of Glamorgan Council in exercise of its powers under Section 14 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (as amended), and of all other enabling powers intends in not less than seven days from the date of this Notice to make an Order the general effect of which is as described in the schedules below: -

SCHEDULE 1

1. No person shall cause or permit a motor vehicle to proceed in the location specified in Schedule 2 below.

SCHEDULE 2

Location	**Cemetery Road, Barry** will be closed between its junctions with Barry Road and St Teilo Avenue.
Reason	To allow for construction works for the new Cemetery Road Park and road improvements to take place.
Duration	From 07.30Hrs on Tuesday 3rd January 2017 for a maximum period of 18 months. (It is anticipated that the works will be completed by 16.30Hrs on Friday 21st April 2017, (weather permitting).
Alt. Route	Signed local diversions for traffic and pedestrians shall be in place via Barry Road and St Teilo Avenue during this closure.
NB:	Pedestrian access CANNOT be maintained during this closure.

Dated this 15th day of December 2016

M. E. Punter,
Director of Environment & Housing
Vale of Glamorgan Council,
The Alps, Wenvoe.
CF5 6AA.

Cyngor Bro Morgannwg
GORCHYMYN (HEOL Y FYNWENT, Y BARRI (RHAN)) (CAU FFORDD) (DROS DRO) 2017

Mae Cyngor Bro Morgannwg, wrth arfer ei bwerau dan Adran 14 Deddf Rheoleiddio Traffig Ffyrdd 1984 (fel y'i diwygiwyd) yn bwriadu, ymhen heb fod yn llai na saith niwrnod o ddyddiad yr Hysbysiad hwn, gwneud Gorchymyn a fydd yn gwneud yr hyn a ddisgrifir yn yr atodlenni isod: -

ATOLDEN 1

1. Ni fydd unrhyw berson yn achosi neu'n caniatáu i gerbyd modur deithio yn y lleoliad a nodir yn Atodlen 2 isod.

ATOLDEN 2

Lleoliad	Bydd Heol y Fynwent, y Barri ar gau o'r cyffyrdd â Ffordd y Barri a Rhodfa Teilo Sant.
Rheswm	I alluogi gwaith adeiladu ar Barc newydd Heol y Fynwent a gwelliannau i'r ffordd.
Hyd	O 07.30 ddydd Mawrth 3 Ionawr 2017 am hyd at 18 mis. (Disgwylir i'r gwaith gael ei gwblhau erbyn 16.30 ddydd Gwener 21 Ebrill 2017 (yn dibynnu ar y tywydd))
Llwybr Amgen	Bydd gwyriadau lleol i draffig a cherddwyr ar waith ar hyd Ffordd y Barri a Rhodfa Teilo Sant tra bod y ffordd ar gau.
DS:	NI ELLIR caniatáu mynediad i gerddwyr tra bod y ffordd ar gau.

Dyddiedig 15 Rhagfyr 2016

M. E. Punter,
Cyfarwyddwr yr Amgylchedd a Thai,
Cyngor Bro Morgannwg,
Canolfan yr Alpau, Gwenfô.
CF5 6AA.

FiLCO Supermarkets

Christmas Specials

Offers run from 12/12/2016 - 03/01/2017

THE FESTIVE 5 Heritage Veg

only 39p each

Heritage Parsnips 500g — only 39p

Heritage Carrots 1kg — only 39p

Heritage Brussel Sprouts 500g — only 39p

Heritage Maris Piper Potatoes 2kg — only 39p

Heritage Savoy Cabbage 1's — only 39p

ANY 2 FOR £10.00

Precioso Rioja / Nagyrede Estate Sauv Blanc, Cabernet Rose, Goldfield Shiraz, Chardonnay /Inkosi Pinotage, Sauvignon Blanc, Pinotage Rose / Vina Zielo Garnacha, Rose, Macabeo / Amanzi Falls Chenin Blanc, Pinotage 75cl

Pringles RRP: £2.49/£2.65 190g — Better than HALF PRICE £1 each

Smirnoff Vodka / Teacher Whisky 1 litre RRP. £21.49/ £19.99 — 1 litre £15 each

British Roasting Joint RRP. £12.99/ kg — HALF PRICE £5.99 /kg

Premium Gammon Joint RRP. £9.99/ kg — HALF PRICE £4.99 /kg

Coors Light / Strongbow / Carling 12 pack 12x440ml, 12x330ml RRP. £10.99/£9.99/£8.99 — £6.99 each

Cadburys Milk Tray 530g RRP. £12 — Better than HALF PRICE £5 each

Walkers Mixed Crisps 42 pack — £4 each

Nicky Soft touch 24 rolls — 24 rolls £4.99 each

Coke Reg/ Diet / Zero 10x330ml RRP. £5.75 — Better than HALF PRICE £2.87 each

Nicky Talent Kitchen Roll Approx.25p/roll — 12 rolls £2.99 each

FiLCO Supermarkets

THESE OFFERS CAN BE FOUND AT FILCO STORES
LLANTWIT, COWBRIDGE, BRYNTIRION, SARN, MAESTEG, NORTH CORNELLY, TALBOT GREEN, CAERAU, BARRY, TAIBACH

WWW.FILCO.CO.UK
FILCO SUPERMARKETS
19 Boverton Road ,
CF61 1XZ
(01446) 792286

Meet schoolboy Mack (11) a fast-rising star baker!

Mack Jenkins with his Victoria sponge.

Other cakes entered in the contest.

A PORTHCAWL boy is back home after coming close to TV glory in the popular CBeebie show, *Junior Bake Off*.

Mack Jenkins is 11 and goes to West Park Primary, but he has amazed his family with his interest in baking – and with his ability too.

Mack's father Daymian told The GEM: "He first took an interest when he was three or four. A neighbour he called Auntie Eirwen used to do a lot of baking and he would go along and help her."

Soon after, the family moved to Australia. They stayed there for six years and Mack's interest in baking continued throughout that time. He was a regular, asking questions in a local bakery, and would bake his own cakes and sell them too.

Mack has a twin brother, Archie, and a 13-year-old sister, Scarlett, and neither has any interest in baking. They enjoy his cakes, of course, as do some lucky schoolchildren in Cardiff.

Daymian explained: "My wife Eleanor teaches in the Bishop of Llandaff School, and takes Mack's cakes to school as a treat for her pupils."

When Mack headed off to his heat in the Bake Off, with his mum as chaperone, they discovered a set that was almost identical to the adult show, and they found that the chief judge was Nadiya Hussain – the 2015 Adult Bake Off winner.

They found the competition was quite keen too. Mack started in fine style, winning the technical challenge with an Anzac biscuit, similar to those baked for the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps (ANZAC) in WWI.

This was Mack's own idea, and came from the family's time in Australia. Mack explained: "An Anzac cake is very popular there, and I adapted the ingredients to make a biscuit."

Judging by those ingredients, it sounds a fantastic creation, using coconut and golden syrup, macadamia nuts, and two different layers, one of vanilla butter cream, and one of passion fruit coulis.

Daymian said: "When the presenters spotted that he was Mack, and I was Daymian, they thought the 'macadamia' nuts were very funny."

The Anzac biscuit was a great success, and Mack was top baker in the technical challenge. However, the standard was high and sadly he was beaten and didn't move on in the competition.

He's back home now and still busy in the kitchen. For fun, Mack also cooks two or three evening meals for the family, something that will make plenty of parents envious.

Daymian said: "Despite his obvious interest, Mack says that cooking and baking is just for fun and he doesn't want to make a career of it."

The GEM met Mack at SUSSED, in James Street, Porthcawl, which was holding its own 'Bake Off Challenge'.

Mack entered a simple Victoria sponge – which was light as a feather – and he took first prize in his age group (under-16).

Taking first prize in the over-16 age group was Nathan Barrett, a teacher at Nottage Primary School, who stressed that the children in the school had baked them with him, together with his teaching assistant, Miss Taylor, so it was very much a team effort.

Finally, Mack Jenkins is bringing his cooking skills to SUSSED on the third Saturday of each month, to give local residents a chance to try some of his creations.

Please note that due to school commitments, he won't be there this Saturday, so his next appearance is scheduled for January.

College helps put young on track for life in the forces

A college in Bridgend prepares young people for life in the Armed Forces and in Civvy Street.

The Military Preparation College (MPCT) has 50 young people on its books ranging in age from 14 to 19. The 14-to-16 year olds come in by arrangement with their schools, while many of the older ones are hoping to join the Armed Forces or have already applied.

Area operations manager, Ian Shaw told AM Suzy Davies that those waiting to go to the Army, Royal Navy, Royal Marines or Royal Air Force attend full-time, while the younger ones attend part-time.

Mrs Davies, a Welsh Conservative regional AM, said: "I was very impressed with the quality of the training offered to these young people.

"Many of them have had a difficult start in life and a lot did not get on in school.

"This college works with them to improve their basic literacy and other skills as well as improving their physical fitness."

She was pleased that those youngsters who fail to get accepted into the military, or who realise that the life is not for them, are helped to find a different career path either by getting into work, or into further education.

Several youngsters, she noted: "Now intend to join the police force, which also demands physical fitness."

The MPCT uses fitness facilities at Bridgend Life Centre and Bridgend YMCA, and all students undertake a Level 1 BTEc in public services.

Ian Shaw said that the MPCT, which operates nationally, was set up in 1999 and while it is independent of the Armed Forces, its aim is to instil the core values of British Army. Its instructors are ex-military, and it enjoys close links with all branches of the services.

MPCT operates throughout Wales and England and has helped 2,400 youngsters get into the Armed Forces and another 6,000 into civilian roles.

It operates at 21 Welsh locations while the college at Bridgend opened about seven years ago.

Mrs Davies added: "It was great to chat to these young people. Many have a burning desire to join the Armed Forces – while others are being helped with literacy, numeracy and other basic skills as they would appear to have fallen through the net as far as 'conventional education provision is concerned.

"Whichever way they go in life, I am sure that MPCT sends them out into the world better equipped with skills and confidence in themselves than they had when they first started."

DICKENS OF A GOOD NIGHT IN DINAS POWYS!

THE annual Dickensian Night in Dinas Powys was a roaring success.

Many residents gathered in the heart of the village and enjoyed a great evening out. There seemed to be more stalls than ever with a wide range of goods available.

Organised by Dinas Powys Rotary, the event was enjoyed by hundreds of people who braved the elements.

The proceeds from the night were to be shared between Blood Bikes Wales and Dinas Powys Voluntary Concern.

Blood Bikes Wales is a voluntary organisation, that provides an out-of-hours emergency motorcycle courier service to the hospitals of Wales delivering supplies.

There were many local organisations selling cakes, toys, hot chocolate, mulled wine, Christmas decorations, presents and much more, a spokesperson reported.

The brass band played traditional carols and wonderful cooked food was produced by the Scouts.

The Christmas tree was impressive and Santa Claus made a welcome appearance.

Congratulations to the Rotary Club on a magnificent event!

For more information on Blood Bikes Wales, visit: www.blood bikeswales.org.uk

Ysgol y Deri wins praise from Estyn inspectors

YSGOL Y Deri, the Vale's state of the art facility for educating children and young people with special educational needs, has received praise from the schools' inspectorate Estyn following its inspection.

Both the school's current performance and prospects for improvement were rated as 'good', the second highest scoring possible.

Estyn singled out the school's learning environment for particular praise. The facility, which is part of the award winning Penarth Learning Community, features modern accessible sports facilities.

The culture within the school was praised for being "highly positive and inclusive."

The school's leadership was classed as 'excellent' with the headteacher and senior leadership team drawing praise for having "established a clear vision for the newly created school that focuses on providing opportunities for all pupils to achieve their potential."

Headteacher Christopher Britten said: "We are delighted with this report. Estyn have recognised the tremendous work that everyone at the school does every day. The success of our pupils is celebrated and their fantastic achievements have been acknowledged."

MP watches shoebox volunteers at work

Alun Cairns with Operation Christmas Child organisers and volunteers from Ewenny.

VOLUNTEERS from Ewenny and shoeboxes from Barry were the most recent contributions to Operation Christmas Child when Alun Cairns MP visited the Pontyclun warehouse.

He watched volunteers at work in the industrial unit, provided by Edwards Coaches, to bring Christmas cheer to the poorer regions of globe.

This year, 35,000 shoe boxes are being distributed by the OCC from Pontyclun, with 26,000 from south Wales and 9,000 from Southampton.

They are heading to Zambia, Belarus, Romania and Albania.

Dillon flicks the switch to light the Llancarfan tree

AN enjoyable evening of carol singing and celebration on December 4, saw the start of the Christmas festivities in the village of Llancarfan.

The evening saw well over 100 villagers attend the lighting of the Llancarfan Christmas tree. The event was kicked off by our guest of honour, Dillon Bellamy, winner of Llancarfan Primary School's painting competition, who flicked the switch on the magnificent lights of the Christmas tree that lit up the evening sky.

The singing was led by Sarah, Hayley and Jo with hearty renditions of all our favourite Christmas tunes that rang throughout the village, and James at the Fox and Hounds provided the mulled wine and mince pies.

We would like to thank all those who contributed to the success of the evening and Max, Matt, Rich and John for putting up the tree. Thanks must go to the Thomas family for allowing us to use their equipment, James at the Fox and the Osborne family, who are providing the power to the lights again this year. **JF**

Inspiring young cooks in the kitchen

BBC Children in Need and BBC Cymru Fyw, the BBC's Welsh language service, have launched a collection of films created by young people sharing recipes to inspire others to learn to how to cook.

The collection includes one that has been created by young people who attend the BBC Children in Need-funded local project KPC Youth in Bridgend.

"Young people across the UK are facing various challenges, such as the difficult transition into adulthood, living independently for the first time or developing basic skills needed such as cooking. These films, created by young people, aim to inspire other young people to have a go at cooking themselves," a spokeswoman explained.

"I've included some more information below." You can also watch all of the films at the following links: http://www.bbc.co.uk/cymrufyw/37950717; https://www.youtube.com/user/BBCCiN/videos.

Andrew RT Davies in his favourite festive jumper at the Senedd.

Ring in the new with Mari Lwyd!

COME and celebrate the 'Old New Year' with Menter Bro Ogwr and the Mari Lwyd!

The Mari Lwyd tradition is a New Year ritual which has strong connections with Bridgend county, in particular, the village of Llangynwyd, Maesteg.

A decorated horse skull is carried from house to house. On arrival at the door of a house, the party challenge the people inside to a battle of rhyming verses called pwnco, in order to gain entry.

The Mari Lwyd will be visiting the Corner House Inn, Llangynwyd on Sunday, January 13, 2017. The night will start at 7.30pm and there will be singing in the bar with Jamie Bevan to follow.

All are welcome!

Tory leader dons a festive woolly for Save the Children

THE South Wales Central AM and Leader of the Welsh Conservatives, Andrew RT Davies, has urged local residents to join him in taking part in Christmas Jumper Day for charity on Friday, December 16.

Save the Children is calling on people across Wales to wear a festive woolly and donate £2 to help vulnerable children across the world.

The money raised will be used on projects including clothes for children in refugee camps to keep them warm this winter.

It will also go towards ensuring they have nutritious food, or provided with a safe place.

"Closer to home, it will also go towards giving children experiencing poverty in Wales a better future," Mr Davies said.

"Christmas Jumper Day is obviously a bit of fun, and has become something of a tradition here in the past few years.

"But it is also a fantastic way to raise money for good causes, both here in Wales and across the world."

YOUR CHANCE TO SHARE THE COMMUNITY NEWS

NORTH BRIDGEND NEWS

A message for all readers in the north of Bridgend who would like to have items included in the community news columns of The GEM:

If you wish to submit reports on any social activity in this region, please contact me.

I am very approachable and will endeavour to include every newsworthy subject.

Contact details: CLIVE MITCHELL
1 Tyn-Y-Coed Close, Sarn, Bridgend CF32 9NQ
TEL: 01656 725399
email: tynycoed1@yahoo.co.uk

St Michael's and All Angels Church, Maesteg.

BOIS Goetre Hen male voice choir will perform in a show titled 'Carols by Candlelight' on Tuesday, December 20 at 7pm. Proceeds from this show will be donated to Prostate Cancer Research (Wales).

Laleston WI

THE December meeting was taken by president Dawn Storie, who welcomed everyone to our Christmas party evening, with a fantastic turnout considering the awful weather that night.

Katherine Nelson won the raffle, while joint quiz winners were Elaine Jones and Jane Lewis. Our competition winners were Tina Coleman, Deborah Jones and Naomi Williams, thank you for coming along in your elf costumes, ladies, you looked great! Gwyneth Jenkins gave a vote of thanks.

A huge 'thank you' to all committee members, for all their hard work ensuring the party was a success and for all their endeavours throughout the year.

The luncheon club will be on January 10 and the book club, at Bridgend Library, will take place on January 19.

Our next meeting will be held on 5 January at 7.15pm in Blandy Hall (Laleston Gardening Club). We will be holding a Beetle Drive and the competition will be 'an insect item'.

Happy New Year to everyone, why not make 2017 the year you come along and join us at the WI? New members are always very welcome and Laleston Women's Institute is a very friendly group. We have a full programme of speakers to look forward to throughout the year, along with a variety of outings planned, that should appeal to everyone. For further information call Diane on 01656 656600.

Tondu Primary School

MRS S Pilcher thanks the Parent Teacher Association and staff who gave up their time to help prepare all the resources and to man the stalls at the Christmas fair. Their work was appreciated.

The school is grateful to Father Christmas, who met all the children. The association is pleased to announce that the fantastic amount of £844 was raised on the day of the fair. £165 was raised from selling Christmas cards and mugs. Everything raised will go to buy resources for the children in the school.

The Chaplin Theatre Company performed *The Magic Castle* for the children on December 5.

Rev Askew visited the school on December 7 to take assembly. The children enjoyed taking part.

Last Friday the Tondu Primary School choir entertained at the Ty Hafan lunch at the Marriott Hotel, Swansea, where Chris Coleman was the guest of honour. They were a credit to the school and we are grateful for their hard work. They also took part in the carol service at Tondu Methodist Church on December 7.

Tondu Toddlers has now finished for Christmas and will resume on January 11.

There will be no Helping Hands meetings until next term. Thank you to all those parents and grandparents who give time each week to help with the children.

Brackla Community Centre

***Beauty and The Beast* is being presented at the Brackla centre on Friday, December 16: doors open 6pm. Tickets £5 adults, and £2 for children.**

Noteworthy mixed voice choir

THIS choir, formed by Ryan Wood, who is also musical director of Bridgend male choir, is performing in a concert at St Michael's and All Angels Church, Maesteg on Friday, December 16 at 7.15pm.

Also performing will be the Cor Tadau Trisant and last year's winner of Dunraven Welsh Young Singer competition, Eirlys Myfanwy Davies.

Tickets are £7 and all money goes to Cancer Research Wales.

Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg, Llangynwyd

HEADTEACHER Meurig Jones is happy with the hard work of all the school staff and pupils in implementing the recommendations set out by the Estyn Inspection and recent review, this is evident in the GCSE results this year.

The school looks forward to a successful future and will continue to build on the foundations we have made as the only Welsh medium comprehensive school in Bridgend County Borough.

Aberkenfig Square

MEMBERS of the public are invited to the annual Christmas carol song festival in the square on Wednesday, December 21 at 7.30pm.

Sarn Community Life Centre

ON Friday, December 16, St Bride's Minor civic department will hold a carol service at 7pm with Tenovus choir.

Cefn charity collections

CEFN Gwyrdd will once again be carol singing from door to door, while rattling the charity tin on Monday, December 19.

The village is too large to visit every street, so this year it will be visiting the western end of the village meeting at Ty Isaf at 6.30pm. Everyone welcome and all will receive a song sheet, but remember to wrap up warm and bring a torch.

Carnegie House, Bridgend

ON Saturday, December 17 the British Lions Club will distribute all proceeds from the grotto to local charities.

It costs £5 per child with the opportunity to meet Santa Claus, with the choice of a quality gift, and parents to take photos.

There will also be free craft activities and story telling sessions. The grotto is open from 10am to 4pm.

Saint Bride's Church, Llansantffraid

ON Sunday, December 18 at 6pm there will be a carol service at which everyone is welcome, with mulled wine and mince pies to follow.

Christmas Eve there will be a Midnight Mass starting at 11.30pm.

Aberkenfig and District United Churches

A WALK of Witness is organised between Bethlehem Chapel, Brynmenyn to Nazareth Chapel, Bryncethin, setting off from Bethlehem chapel at 10am next Saturday, December 17.

Wesley Methodist Church, Tondu

ON Sunday, December 18 at 3pm, there will be a service with lessons and carols accompanied by the church choir.

On Christmas Eve, there is a Christingle service at 5pm. The Christmas Day service will be at 10am.

Saint David's Church, Betws

ON Christmas Eve, at 4pm, there will be a Christingle service with the children of Betws Primary School. Everyone is welcome.

On Christmas Day there is the Eucharist service at 10am.

Saint John's Church, Aberkenfig

A CELEBRATION Eucharist service will be held at 9am on Christmas Day, everyone is welcome.

On January 1, there will be a joint parish service.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Councillors' surgery

THE Labour Vale and Town Councillors for Buttrills, Castleland and Court Wards Bronwen Brooks, Pamela Drake, Jeff Evans, Chris Elmore, Les Sword, Karl Khunell and Stuart Egan will hold their monthly advice surgery on Saturday, December 17 from 10am to 11am in the small community room, Barry Library, King Square. ***No appointment necessary.***

Holy Cross concert

THERE will be a fundraising concert of 'Music In the Vale', with young singers and instrumentalists at Holy Cross Church, Cowbridge on Wednesday, December 21 at 7.30pm.

All proceeds to Music In the Vale; refreshments available. Tickets (£10) are available at the door or call 01446 781453.

Sponsored by Watts & Morgan Estate Agents, Cowbridge. Go to ***www.musicinthevale.org.uk.***

THE DAY THAT LITTLE SANTA MET BIG SANTA!

Little Santa (Freddy Davies, aged 14 months), visited Big Santa in his grotto at Carnegie House, Bridgend, last week.

Lion John Davies, Freddy's grandad had wanted him to meet fellow Lions manning the grotto.

"Perhaps he'll join the club when he is older, but at the moment he appears unconcerned and quite relaxed on Santa's lap!" said grandad.

'Share the Warmth' this Christmas

BARNARDO'S Cymru and a fashion retailer have joined together to launch a coat exchange to raise money for the most disadvantaged children in Wale.

Shoppers who donate a coat to any Barnardo's store until Saturday, December 24 will receive a £10 voucher to spend on the new season's wardrobe at Evans, in-store, or online at evans.co.uk.

Coats received by Barnardo's will be re-sold or recycled to raise vital funds to help support vulnerable children, young people and families.

Sarah Crawley, director of Barnardo's Cymru explained: "The coat exchange is a fantastic initiative and we're excited to be working with Evans. This opportunity will not only reward those who generously support Barnardo's, but help vulnerable children such as those at risk of sexual exploitation and living in care."

Fiona Ross, Evans' managing director, said: "We're delighted to be working with Barnardo's on the 'Share the Warmth' campaign this winter and hope we can raise awareness and essential funds, so Barnardo's can continue to help transform the lives of the UK's most vulnerable children."

For more information, visit *evans.co.uk/stores link]* and Barnardo's *www.barnardos.org.uk*.

Ogmore MP backs lifesaving campaign

EACH year in the UK, 30,000 people suffer a sudden cardiac arrest, but fewer than 1-in-10 survive.

As part of 'European Restart a Heart Day', Ogmore MP Chris Elmore visited The Oliver King Foundation at its launch event in Westminster to support a call for action.

He said: "I am proud to become a 'Lifesaving Defibrillator Champion' for Ogmore. It is vital that we take action to prevent any loss of life where one can be saved.

"I will be working with local schools in my constituency to fundraise and get lifesaving defibrillators in our area, protecting our students, teachers and visitors while at school.

The Oliver King Foundation was set up following the death of 12-year-old Oliver King from a sudden cardiac arrest, which kills 12 young people every single week.

Oliver was winning a swimming race at school at the time.

Festival of Christmas trees tests imagination

The Christmas tree festival at St Mary's Church, Nolton.

DOZENS of decorated Christmas trees have been brightening up churches in festivals throughout the area, including a record 75 trees on display at All Saints' Church in Porthcawl.

Llantrisant celebrated by holding its 15th successful festival. Decorated trees also went on display at St Augustine's in Penarth, at St Mary's Church, Barry, and St George's Church in Cwmparc.

In Bridgend, the parish of Coity, Nolton and Brackla held its 10th festival at St Mary's Church, which was accompanied by a variety of musical and Christmas events including a festival concert showcasing the talent of the Garage Gospel Choir.

Canon Mike Komor of Coity, Nolton and Brackla said: "Every year, various organisations including schools, businesses, charities and church groups, place a decorated tree to add to the display. People were able vote for their favourite tree. We had some very imaginatively decorated trees, including one made from books and another from corks. Each year, we choose a different charity to support from the proceeds. This year we supported Welsh Hearts.

"We had high hopes that our 10th anniversary festival would be the biggest and best yet, and we were not disappointed. Well over 50 organisations exhibited, nearly 1,000 people visited, and we raised £2,800 for the benefiting charity – a brilliant result."

Welsh Hearts works to place defibrillators in communities and delivers CPR and defibrillator training throughout Wales.

The Archdeacon of Morgannwg and priest-in-charge of Cwmbach, the Venerable Christopher Smith, said: "The popularity of Christmas tree festivals continues to grow and shows how alive and active our parishes are in welcoming people into our churches. Christmas tree festivals are a simple but powerful reminder of the real meaning of Christmas."

Magic in the trees at Christmas

The lights that some people think look like silver goblets.

Can you spot a reindeer in the lights at Newton roundabout?

AT Christmas time there is always magic in the air, no more so than at the Newton roundabout en route into Porthcawl.

Porthcawl Town Council have done a grand job again this year of decorating the trees on three of the Porthcawl roundabouts, particularly at Newton.

The lights there take on different images dependent on the viewer's imagination as one approaches from different directions. Through the eye of the camera, have one set of tree lights look to me like a pot-bellied reindeer whilst the other set of decorated trees look like silver goblets. or perhaps an American Buffalo or a 20th.

Do GEM readers see anything different?

Keith E Morgan
Porthcawl

Who wants to build what in Bridgend, and where?

Mrs Mary Elizabeth Jenkins – **89 Heol Las, North Cornelly** – Demolition of existing bungalow and erection of four linked dwellings.

Rhondda Cynon Taff Council – **Llwyncelyn Farm, Hafod Lane, Porth** – Request for observations: erection of two wind turbines with a tip maximum height of 125m, associated infrastructure, transformer cabin and access track, including access via public highway and across Cribin Ddu Farm and Llwyncelyn Farm.

Mr Richard Tyan – **Rear of 11 Ewenny Road, Bridgend** – One bedroom self-contained flat.

Mrs Katie Belcher – **Unit 5, Highwayman Units, Castle View, Bridgend** – Change use from office to use class D1 (chiropractic clinic).

Mrs Lynne Horgan – **238 New Road, Porthcawl** – Change front garden to hardstanding for one vehicle, remove front wall and drop kerb.

Mr David Edwards – **22 Heol Castell Coety, Litchard** – Reduce the height of ash and sycamore trees by minimum of 50 per cent, cut back all overhanging branches.

Mr Carl Francis – **22 Verlands Way, Pencoed** – Remove section of oak tree that overhangs the property.

Bromwell Properties Ltd – **Llwyn Celyn, Pant y Pwllau, Coity** – Alterations and two storey and single storey extensions to rear and side.

Andrew Hazell – **3 Westfield Crescent, Porthcawl** – Single storey rear extension.

Dr Suresh Singh – **Former Nantyffyllon Surgery, 77 High Street, Nantyffyllon, Maesteg** – Demolish surgery and construct two four bedroom detached dwellings.

Bridgend County Borough Council – **Maesteg Town Hall, Talbot Street, Maesteg** – The essential front roof replacement of roof covering to stop water ingress. Eradication of dry rot and repairs caused by roof failure.

Ms Lester and Mr Hoole – **Cefn Cribbwr Farm, Farm Road, Cefn Cribbwr, Bridgend** – Outdoor all-weather riding arena and four four-metre high area lights (riding area for personal enjoyment of applicants).

CTIL & Vodafone Ltd – **Land at Maesteg ATE, Station Street, Maesteg** – Proposed installation of 15.0m monopole supporting three antennae, two dishes, together with associated ground-based cabinets and ancillary development thereto.

Mr Albert Jeremiah – **2 Shearwater Close, Porthcawl** – External alterations and single storey rear extension.

Miss Karrie Sian – **Land rear of 27 Cwrt Pant Yr Awel, Lewistown** – Inclusion of land into curtilage – to be used as garden and amenity land only.

Mr R Williams and Mrs S Morey – **8 Llangwm Way, Porthcawl** – Double storey side extension and single storey rear extension.

Mr Anthony Morgan – **31 Heol Cambrensis, Pyle, Bridgend** – Proposed garage, utility space and wetroom and ground floor level with hobby/storage space above in roof space with dormer.

CLC 19 The Design Office – **Plots 52, 53, 54, 33 and 55 Duffryn Oaks, Hendre Road, Pencoed** – Plot location, slab levels, house type and external finishes to Plots 52, 53, 54, 33 and 55 revised from original approval.

Mr K Dranfield – **23 Cwrt yr Hen Ysgol, Bridgend** – Extension to existing garage.

Mrs A Richards – **4 Garnwen Terrace, Nantyffyllon, Maesteg** – Two storey extension to provide kitchen and bedroom.

Clarke Telecom Ltd – **Land at Llangewydd Road shops, Llangewydd Road, Bridgend** – Proposed base station development.

Mrs Rita Turrell – **105 Ty Gwyn Drive, Brackla, Bridgend** – Proposed single storey extension.

KFC UK – **KFC Drive-thru, Designer Outlet Village, access roads, Cefn Hirgoed, Bridgend** – Respray of existing panelling to building envelope.

Safety work is welcomed

THE Vale Council's announcement that road safety improvements are to be carried out along Barry Road has been welcomed by Independent councillor Richard Bertin, who said he is pleased that the junctions of Barry Road and Chesterfield Street and Glebe Street are to be made safer for both road users and pedestrians in Barry.

glamorgan-gem.co.uk

WI members light up the Orangery at Margam tree festival

RECENTLY, on a dull winter's day, the magnificent 18th century Orangery at Margam Park was further enhanced by twinkling Christmas trees, decorated by members of 33 Glamorgan Federation WIs.

The ingenuity and talent of WI ladies was evident in the wonderful array of trees on display. There were trees with knitted Christmas puddings, Father Christmas and Nativity scenes.

There were trees with exquisitely crocheted toys, stars and hosts of angels. There were trees decorated with tempting treats such as mini gingerbread men and trees with orange slices and cinnamon sticks, which conjured up the delicious aroma of mulled wine and mince pies!

Perhaps some members were wishing for snow this year. Pretty painted twigs were artfully arranged to represent a white Christmas with handmade stars that glittered in the winter sun. A cunningly disguised tree masqueraded as a jolly snowman.

Tea parties and royalty were also represented and plaques with photographs reminded us of the achievements of influential women from past and present.

Decorations made from recyclable materials were used to good effect and a tree decorated with knitted squares – which were to be made into blankets for newborn babies in the local hospital –illustrated the work that the WI does in the community.

The Glamorgan Federation welcomed over 200 visitors during the day and the talented One Accord choir entertained them.

Favourite Christmas carols and the twinkling lights of 33 beautiful trees as darkness descended, ensured that this was a delightful start to the festive season – and a very successful event.

JANE EXCELL

Festive carols in town

LAST Sunday, December 11 there was a packed church for the annual 'Carols By Candlelight' service at the United Free Church, Cowbridge.

Guest choirs were 'Rocking Melodies' from Y Bont Faen School, the choir of Ysgol Iolo Morgannwg and Cor Meibion y Machlud.

Each year the service makes a collection for a local charity. This year it is Cancer Research Wales, supporting those diagnosed with cancer and their families. The church Christmas Day family service at 10am will add its collection to the existing sum of nearly £700, and the total will be presented to CRW in early January.

The Churches Together event 'Carols in The Castle' will meet on December 22 at 6.15pm in the cattle market (bring a torch) for the walk to St Quentin's. If the walk is a problem, meet us there at about 7pm.

Also, join us for 45 minutes on Christmas Eve at 6.30pm for a gentle service of music and readings at the United Free Church on Westgate (also entrance in the Broadshoard). *cowbridgeunitedfreechurch.org.uk*

REV HEATHER WEDDELL
Cowbridge United Free Church

Santa Loco ready to run this weekend

The Santa Loco is running again this weekend at Barry Island, December 17 and 18.

It will run at 11.45, 13.30, 14.30 and 15.30 hrs. The out and back journey takes about half an hour.

Photographer Mike Wilcock captured it in action last weekend.

ST DONAT'S CHORALE ON THE MOVE TO LLANTWIT MAJOR

ST DONAT'S Chorale held its Christmas concert at St Illtud's Church last Saturday.

The choir (*pictured right in the church*) has, after long deliberation, decided to leave Atlantic College and will now rehearse in Llantwit Major at the brand new Ysgol Y Ddraig Primary School.

In return for the offer of rehearsal facilities, the choir (who are a registered charity) will be performing one concert every year where the funds raised will be re-invested in the school community.

The choir performs not just choral work but also modern music, and members need not have any previous singing experience, just a love of music.

Rehearsals for our next concert begin on Monday, January 9, from 7.30pm until 9.30pm, and anybody interested in joining should come along to one of our rehearsals where they will be made to feel very welcome, or contact Richard Bayliss at rjd1349@hotmail.co.uk for further information.

RB

Wonderful Tenovus choir leads carol singing in High Street

AMONG the crowds singing at Barry High Street Christmas market was local AM Jane Hutt, who reported: "Despite the rain, the market in Barry was a great success with wonderful singing by the Tenovus Choir. Thank you to High Street traders and stalls for making this such a great event on Saturday."

Jane Hutt with members of the Tenovus Choir.

The Vale of Glamorgan Council

HIGHWAYS ACT 1980, SECTION 124

VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL (STOPPING UP PRIVATE MEANS OF ACCESS TO PREMISES KNOWN AS COSY CORNER, BARRY ISLAND) ORDER 2016

The Vale of Glamorgan Council ("The Council") hereby give notice that the above Order was made on 14 December 2016 under section 124 (1) of the Highways Act 1980 authorising the Council to stop up a private means of access leading to premises known as Cosy Corner, Barry Island ("the Premises") because it considers that the means of access is likely to cause danger to traffic on Paget Road at its junction with Station Approach Road and Harbour Road. An alternative means of access is to be located on Paget Road to the south of the existing access.

A copy of the Order and map contained in it may be inspected free of charge at Civic Offices, Holton Road, Barry CF63 4RU from 9.30a.m. – 4.30p.m. Mondays to Fridays.

Any representations about or objections to the Order may be sent in writing to James Docherty, Legal Services, Vale of Glamorgan Council, Civic Offices, Holton Road, Barry, CF63 4RU no later than Thursday 12th January 2017. Please state the grounds on which they are made.

If no representations or objections are duly made, or if any so made are withdrawn, The Council may confirm the Order as an unopposed Order. If the Order is sent to the National Assembly for Wales for confirmation, any representations or objections which have not been withdrawn will be sent with the Order.

James Docherty
Senior Lawyer
Legal Services
Vale of Glamorgan Council
Civic Offices
Holton Road
Barry. CF63 4RU
Vale of Glamorgan

Cyngor Bro Morgannwg

DEDDF PRIFFYRDD 1980, ADRAN 124

GORCHYMYN CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG (CAU MYNEDIAD PREIFAT AT EIDDO A ELWIR COSY CORNER, YNYS Y BARRI) 2016

Mae Cyngor Bro Morgannwg ("Y Cyngor") drwy hyn yn hysbysu y gwnaed y Gorchymyn uchod ar 14 Rhagfyr 2016 dan adran 124 (1) Deddf Priffyrdd 1980 yn awdurdodi'r Cyngor i ddileu mynediad preifat yn arwain at safle a elwir Cosy Corner, Ynys y Barri ("y Safle") am ei fod o'r farn bod y mynediad yn debygol o beryglu traffig ar Paget Road a'r gyffordd â Ffordd Ddynesu'r Orsaf a Harbour Road. Caiff mynediad arall ei leoli ar Paget Road i dde'r mynediad presennol.

Mae modd gweld copi o'r Gorchymyn a'r map ynddo am ddim yn y Swyddfeydd Sifig, Heol Holltwn, Y Barri CF63 4RU o 9.30am i 4.30pm o ddydd Llun i ddydd Gwener.

Gellir anfon unrhyw sylwadau neu wrthwynebiadau i'r Gorchymyn yn ysgrifenedig i James Docherty, Gwasanaethau Cyfreithiol, Cyngor Bro Morgannwg, Swyddfeydd Dinesig, Heol Holltwn, Y Barri, CF63 4RU erbyn dydd lau 12 Ionawr 2017. Nodwch y rhesymau drostynt.

Os na ddaw unrhyw sylwadau na gwrthwynebiadau i law, neu os cânt eu tynnu'n ôl, gall y Cyngor gadarnhau'r Gorchymyn fel un nas gwrthwynebir. Os anfonir y Gorchymyn i Gynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru i'w gadarnhau, caiff unrhyw sylwadau neu wrthwynebiadau nas tynnwyd yn ôl eu hanfon â'r Gorchymyn.

James Docherty
Uwch Gyfreithiwr
Gwasanaethau Cyfreithiol
Cyngor Bro Morgannwg
Swyddfeydd Dinesig
Heol Holltwn
Y Barri. CF63 4RU
Bro Morgannwg

St Athan Golf Club members look back on a successful year at presentation evening

AT its recent presentation evening at St Athan Golf Club, the proceedings began with the club captain, Craig Sherman assisted by the ladies captain, Michelle Bligh, presenting trophies and awards to the junior section.

Craig, in his dual role as lead junior organiser, outlined to the membership how strong the junior section has now become and explained that this is down to the dedicated volunteers who willingly give up their free time.

St Athan Golf Club has recently gained junior accreditation from the Golf Union of Wales which says: "Clubs gaining accreditation clearly demonstrate a dedication to fostering the game at junior and beginner levels".

After only taking up the sport this season, Lili Callard had a smile as broad as her face when it was announced that she was the Elderflower Salver recipient, an award presented to the junior who always tries their hardest, shows extreme dedication, conducts themselves impeccably and is a pleasure to have in the section.

All of the championship matches were contested earlier in the year and the juniors' battle saw two extremely talented golfers come head-to-head. Louie John accepted his runners-up trophy, and he was the first to congratulate Ralph O'Carroll on being named the 2016 Junior Club Champion.

Gary Bohun, in his capacity as chairman of play then outlined the rest of the evening's agenda. The ladies awards would be announced by their competitions member, Steph Bonnar and presented by their club captain, and the club president, Paul Lindsay would present the men's trophies.

The most sought-after awards each year are undoubtedly the championship titles and this year the members had the pleasure of witnessing two outstanding matches, between Erin Allison and Michelle Bligh in the ladies and Craig Sherman against Steve Bacon in the men's. Erin and Craig were competing to retain the titles from 2015 and they both produced some truly impressive golf to once again be champions.

There are two awards where the members do not know the recipients until they are announced. The first is the 'club person of the year' and the club committee voted JWG Morgan for the unseen work he has put in over a number of years in his role as chairman director.

The playing committee have the decision on the Kyle Trophy winner. This is awarded to the golfer who achieves a significant handicap reduction and who is a good example both on and off the course. The committee had to decide between three members, Louie John, Keith Lewis and Luke Sloan, and after deliberation the decision was taken to award the trophy to the player who nearly gave up the sport last year – Keith Lewis.

A full list of competition winners can be found on the club's website *www.rafstathango.co.uk*. St Athan Golf Club caters for green fee players but particularly welcomes new social and playing members. *For further information contact the club manager 01446 751043*

CM

Lili Callard.

ABOVE: Jon Pengelly, Paul Lindsay and Stewart Thomas

ABOVE: Keith Lewis (far right) is congratulated by his family.

ABOVE: Paul Lindsay with Gary Bohun.

ABOVE: Izzy Thomas.

Club person of the year, JWG Morgan.

ABOVE: Dilys Hurley, Carol Morgan and Craig Sherman.

ABOVE: The two club champions, Erin Allison and Craig Sherman.

ABOVE: Junior champion Ralph O'Carroll with lady captain Michelle Bligh.

Brian Lee's most memorable Welsh Grand National winners:

BONANZA BOY, 1989

MARTIN PIPE'S *Bonanza Boy* made Welsh Grand National history in 1989 by becoming the first dual winner to win in successive years.

The last dual winner *Limonali*, trained by the Vale's Posy Lewis, won in 1959 and 1961, while three times winner *Lacatoi* had been successful in 1935, 1937 and 1939 when the race had been held at Cardiff's Ely Racecourse, which closed in 1939.

The only other dual winners – *Razorbill* had won in 1908 and 1911 and *Miss Balscadden* in 1926 and 1928 – had to wait three and two years respectively before winning the race a second time and that was when the race was held at Cardiff.

Backers of *Bonanza Boy*, who started a 15/8 favourite, must have been a little bit worried when on the first circuit he could be seen scratching along in mid-division as *Stearsby* and *Remedy The Malady* led the field a merry dance on ground that could only be described as stamina sapping.

However, *Bonanza Boy's* jockey, Peter Scudamore, whose motto was 'never say die' didn't give up the chase and gradually eased his way to the leaders.

Six fences from the finish, disaster nearly struck as *Bonanza Boy*, who was not much bigger than a polo pony, was badly hampered by the fall of *Remedy The Malady* which caused him to swerve and lose six or seven lengths.

Undeterred, *Bonanza Boy* galloped on through the mud and taking the lead approaching the fourth last fence, he went on to win by 15 lengths from *Cool Ground* who beat *Charter Hardware* by half-a-length for second place. *Ghofar* finished fourth.

Little Polvier, who 10 months earlier, had won the Aintree National, looked as though he needed the race and struggled home in seventh and last place.

Cool Ground under Luke Harvey went on to win the race in 1990.

Brian Lee is the author of *The Welsh Grand National – From Deerstalker to Emperor's Choice* published by The History Press at £14.99.

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Family Notices

WENDON
Luke

Passed away peacefully on 6th December 2016. Beloved husband of Linda, devoted father to Jonathan and Julia and adored and dedicated husband to the late Jean.

Funeral service to be held on Friday, 16th December 2016 at 12 noon at Cardiff & Glamorgan Memorial Park and Crematorium, Port Road, Barry, CF62 9PX. No flowers by request but donations would be welcomed for Cancer Research UK.

All enquires to Parkman Funeral Home, 2 Waunrhydd Road, Tonyrefail, CF39 8EN, 01443 552101.

EDMONDS
Eileen Veronica

Peacefully on December 6 at the University Hospital of Wales surrounded by her loving family, Eileen, devoted wife to Kenneth. A much loved mum, nan and great nanny Pip.

She will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved her.

Eileen is in the care of Lyndsay Ellis @ The Vale Funeral Service, 181 Court Road, Barry until her funeral service at St Helen's RC Church, Barry on Friday, December 16 at 9.45am, followed by interment at Barry Cemetery.

Family flowers only, donations if, desired may, be made at the service to support Ty Hapus, Barry in memory of Eileen.

GALTON
Pauline

Peacefully at home on December 11, Pauline, devoted wife of Michael (Mickey), beloved mum to Janet, Paul & Sarah. An adored nanna of Amiena, Jamel, Mohammed, Rhys, Sabina, Jessica and Lydia, also a cherished great nanna.

She will be greatly missed by all her family and many friends.

Resting in the private chapel of The Vale Funeral Service, Barry until her service at Barry Cemetery Chapel on Thursday, December 22 at 2pm, followed by interment. Floral tributes may be sent to the funeral home. Colourful clothing may be worn.

Funeral arrangements entrusted to Lyndsay Ellis, 01446 407962.

Acknowledgements

WILDE
Alban Edward

The family would like to sincerely thank all relatives, friends and neighbours for their kindness and sympathy following the sad loss of Alban.

Our thanks to Reverend Anthony Beer for ensuring the service of thanksgiving was a fitting celebration of Alban's life, to all who attended the service and to W. James and Sons for the funeral arrangements.

MORGAN
David Rees

(New Barn, Flemingston)

The family would like to express their sincere thanks to all the relatives, friends and neighbours for their cards, floral tributes and messages of sympathy received during the recent passing of David.

Special thanks to all that attended the funeral, Reverend Melanie Prince for conducting the service in a professional, personal and caring manner together with Lyndsay Ellis, Vale Funeral Service.

Also special thanks to Cowbridge Medical Centre, Doctors and District Nurses, Marie Curie and Macmillan nurses, St David's Podiatry, Heulwen Ward in the UWH, Velindre Hospital and finally the RABI (Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution).

SAINSBURY
Eira

Peacefully on November 18, at the amazing age of 100, Eira, previously of Phyllis Street, Barry Island, passed away at Bellavista Nursing Home.

Beloved mum to the late Anthony, dear mum-in-law to Ann and cherished Gu to Sian, Baz, Ollie and Rosie. We'll all miss you x

As in life, Eira has continued to think of others by donating herself for anatomical examination at Cardiff University.

BARRY
Kevin Martin

Passed away peacefully at The Marie Curie Hospice, Penarth on Saturday, 10th December. Adoring husband to Sue, proud father to Tom, Hannah and Emily and much loved and spoiled brother of Eileen and Robert. Will be sadly missed and fondly remembered by all of his friends and family, including nieces and nephews, great nieces and great nephews, brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law and particularly by Sue's mum, Moyra.

We'll always have the memories.

Funeral service at Thornhill Crematorium on Wednesday, 21st December at 2pm; all are welcome. A wake will be held from 3.30pm at Cowbridge Rugby Club. Please bring a story. Family flowers only. Donations, in lieu of flowers, can be made to Marie Curie Hospice, Penarth. Donation envelopes will be available on the day.

SADLER
Susan (née Messer)

Peacefully on December 11th at Marie Curie Hospice, Penarth with her devoted partner Mark at her bedside, Susan, much loved mum of Liam, Carla and their families.

She will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved her.

Susan is in the care of The Vale Funeral Service, Barry until her service at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium, Port Road East, Barry on Wednesday, December 21 at 12pm. Family floral tributes only. Donations, if desired may be made at the service or via Susan's online tribute page at www.valefuneralservice.co.uk where you are also welcome to leave your personal memories and messages.

All donations to support Marie Curie Hospice. Family request that colourful clothing be worn, to reflect on Susan's character and personality.

TAYLOR
Eileen Margaret
(Née Elward)

Peacefully on December 8 at Princess of Wales Hospital, Bridgend, Eileen of Llantwit Major, beloved wife of the late Tony, dearly loved mother of Suzanne, Sian and Mark, much loved grandmother and great grandmother.

Resting at the Private Funeral Home of W James & Sons, Fonmon. Funeral Wednesday, December 21, service 2.45pm at St. Illtuds Church, followed by cremation at Cardiff and Glamorgan Crematorium, Barry at 4pm. No flowers by request, donations in lieu, if desired, to Alzheimers Society, c/o J James, 11 Fonmon Road, Rhoose, Vale of Glamorgan CF62 3DZ.

EVANS
Meirion

Suddenly on December 7 at his home in Gwern-y-Steeple, Peterston-s-Ely, Meirion, beloved wife of Tina.

Resting at the Private Funeral Home of W James & Sons, Fonmon. Funeral Thursday, December 22, service 12 noon at Trehill Presbyterian Church, St. Nicholas, followed by cremation at Coychurch Crematorium, Bridgend at 1.15pm. No flowers by request, donations in lieu, if desired, to Rotary Foundation, or Marie Curie Cancer Care, (please make all cheques payable to W. James & Sons Charity Account), c/o J. James, 11 Fonmon Road, Rhoose, Vale of Glamorgan, CF62 3DZ.

SEWELL
Eric

Peacefully on Saturday, 3rd December 2016 at Llandough Hospital. Much loved father, grandfather and great grandfather.

He will be greatly missed by all his family and many friends.

Funeral service at 12 noon on Wednesday, 4th January 2017 at Holy Cross Church, Cowbridge, followed by cremation at Coychurch Crematorium.

Family flowers only, donations if desired to Cancer Research UK, Velindre Hospital, Whitchurch, Cardiff, CF14 2TL.

JONES
Ken

Very peacefully on December 10 at Llandough hospital, Ken (John), aged 86 years of Wenvoe Terrace, Barry. Beloved husband of the late Gloria Eileen. A loved father of Keith, Ian, Neal and father-in-law of Dawn and Rose. Cherished grandfather of Leanne, Matthew and great grandfather of Jessica. Dear brother of Trevor.

Ken will be sadly missed by all of his family and friends.

Resting at A.G. Adams & Son Funeral Home, Gladstone Road, Barry, until the funeral on Thursday, December 22. Service in the chapel at 12 noon, followed by cremation at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium, Port Road East, Barry. Family flowers only by request.

WALKER
Kenneth (Ken)

Suddenly on December 5, Ken of Court Road, Barry, passed away at the University Hospital of Wales. Ken was a husband, father, grandfather, uncle and dear friend to many.

Resting at A.G.Adams & Son until the funeral service in the Chapel of Rest on Tuesday, December 20 at 11am, followed by interment at Barry Cemetery.

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In Memory

RICKETTS
Elizabeth (Liz)

20.6.1958 – 14.12.2015

One year today, always in my thoughts.

Love Mitch xxx

BELLION
Paul

17/12/2015

We thought of you with love today
But that is nothing new
We thought about you yesterday
And days before that too
We think of you in silence
We often speak your name
All we have are memories
As your picture in a frame
Your memory is our keepsake
With which we'll never part
God has you in his keeping
We have you in our hearts

Anne (wife), Rachel, Samantha, Richard (children) and all his grandchildren xxx

IN MEMORY OF
Richard Harrhy

24.4.58 - 14.12.15

A whole year has passed, no kisses, no smiles from you, just wonderful memories.

Not a day goes by we
don't think of you.

Sue, Matt and James *xxx*

JENKINS
David
1937-2015

Your memory is our keepsake with which we'll never part. God has you in His keeping, We have you in our hearts.

God bless, love always, Gwyneth and family

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Public Notices

LICENSING ACT 2003 SECTION 17 (5)
Notice of Application for a Premises License

NOTICE IS GIVEN THAT an application has been made to Bridgend County Borough Council (the Licensing Authority) for a **PREMISES LICENSE**

To permit licensable activities which it is proposed will be carried on, on or from the premises shown below.

Details of the application may be inspected between the hours of: Monday to Thursday 0830 to 1700 hours and Friday 0830 to 1630 hours at Civic Offices, Angel Street, Bridgend, CF31 4WB or by visiting the authority's website: www.bridgend.gov.uk.

Any responsible authority or any other person may make representations in respect of the application, which must be submitted, in writing, to the following address before the date shown below:- Licensing Section, Bridgend County Borough Council, Civic Offices, Angel Street, Bridgend, CF31 4WB

NAME OF APPLICANT:
THE BROOMWAGON CAFE

NAME AND POSTAL ADDRESS OF THE PREMISES: **11 NEW ROAD, PORTHCAWL, CF36 5DL**

STATEMENT OF INTENDED LICENSABLE ACTIVITIES: (1)
TO SUPPLY ALCOHOL & PLAY RECORDED MUSIC.

DATE BY WHICH REPRESENTATIONS MUST BE MADE: This notice remains in force from and including the day after the giving of this notice to the licensing authority, namely 6th December 2016 for 28 consecutive days

It is an offence knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with an application. The maximum fine on summary conviction is £5,000

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PUBLIC NOTICE
LICENSING ACT 2003

To whom it may concern:
I PARMJIT DHESI
do hereby give notice that I have applied to the Licensing Authority at Vale of Glamorgan Council for a variation to a Premises Licence at the address 369-371 Barry Road, CF62 8HG, this to include:
The retail sale of alcohol and opening hours Sun-Sat 07:00 - 23:00
Any person wishing to make representations to this application may do so by writing to The Licensing Team, Vale of Glamorgan Council, Civic Offices, Holton Road, Barry CF63 4RU. Not later than 28 days after the date of this notice (as below).
Representations received after this date will not be considered.
It is an offence knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with this application, the maximum fine on summary conviction being £5,000.
Dated 08/12/2016

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Seasons Greetings

Sue & Rob Thomas
of Llantwit Major

Wish all our friends and family a joyous and blessed xmastide preceding to a most Happy and Healthy 2017.

Once again this year we are donating to Ty Hafan and the RNLI in lieu of Xmastide cards xxxx

Mary Ellard

Mary wishes all her friends and relatives best wishes for Christmas and the New Year.

In lieu of cards, Mary is sending donations to her favourite charities.

Season's Greetings

Sheila and family wish to send Best Wishes for Christmas and the New Year to all family, friends and neighbours, and to thank them all for support given throughout the past 18 months.

We will be making a donation in lieu of cards to Marie Curie Cancer Care.

Mary & John Bacon

Would like to wish their family and friends a Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year

Barbara & John Marsh

would like to wish family, friends & neighbours, also Care in Wales and their carers,

Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year

Brunie Burden
of Llantwit Major

Brunie would like to wish all friends, neighbours, her support teams in Eryl Surgery, Boots the Chemist, the Chocolate Box, the Flower Shop, Spar Newsagents and Faithful Carers old and new a Very Happy Christmas, with special thanks for all of your support since my recent hospitalisation.

Season's Greetings

WATSON

Chris & family would like to send
BEST WISHES FOR CHRISTMAS & THE NEW YEAR
to all family, friends & neighbours.
Thanks also for all the lovely cards & wishes for my recent 80th birthday.
We will be making a donation in lieu of cards to Parkinson in memory of Brian.

TO ADVERTISE YOUR **SITUATIONS VACANT, FAMILY NOTICES, BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES etc.**
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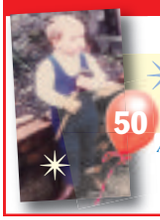
Birthdays

LOOK WHO'S 50!
on 15 December 2016



'The DIY King'
Andrew Goodland
50
All our love for a Happy 50th!
Mum, Dad, Meliss, Aunty Kath, Annwen, Ffion & Llinos xxx

Glenys Pryce
Happy 80th Birthday
on 19th December
Lots of love
Leighton and Beth
xxx

Jessica Mary Evans
Happy 21st Birthday!
17/12/1995
All our love
Mam, Dad, your little sister Megan and your babies Harley and Leia
xxx

Michelle Esposito
Happy Birthday
on 19th December
Lots of love from Gino
xxx

Public Notices

The Vale of Glamorgan Council
(BROCK STREET, CARUW CLOSE LYDSTEP ROAD BARRY (PART)) (ROAD CLOSURE) (TEMPORARY) ORDER 2016

The Vale of Glamorgan Council in exercise of its powers under Section 14 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (as amended), and of all other enabling powers intends in not less than seven days from the date of this Notice to make an Order the general effect of which is as described in the schedules below: -

SCHEDULE 1

1. No person shall cause or permit a motor vehicle to proceed in the location specified in Schedule 2 below.

SCHEDULE 2

Location 1/ **Brock Street, Barry** from its junction with Cowbridge Road for a distance of 30m in a northerly direction.

Diversions via the remaining open section of Brock Street, Coldbrook Road and Cowbridge Street.

2/ **Caruw Close, Barry** from its junction with Lydstep Road for a distance of 20m in a north easterly direction.

Diversions for traffic will be available via a temporary road that will be constructed to the side of the work area.

3/ **Lydstep Road, Barry** will be closed between its junctions with Redberth Close and Solva Close, access for residents will be maintained from one side of the closure or the other.

Diversions for traffic will be in place via Collard Crescent, Dyfan Road, Treharne Road, St Brides Way, Ramsey Road, and Skomer Road.

Reason To allow Coldbrook Flood Management improvement works to take place.

Duration From 7.00am on Wednesday 4th January 2017 for a maximum Period of 18 Months.

NB: Pedestrian access will be maintained at all times.

Dated this 15th day of December 2016

M. E. Punter,
Director of Environment & Housing
Vale of Glamorgan Council,
The Alps, Wenvoe.
CF5 6AA.

Cyngor Bro Morgannwg
(BROCK STREET, CARUW CLOSE LYDSTEP ROAD Y BARRI (RHANNOL)) (CAU FFORDD) (DROS DRO) 2016

Mae Cyngor Bro Morgannwg, wrth arfer ei bwerau dan Adran 14 Deddf Rheoleiddio Traffig Ffyrdd 1984 (fel y'i diwygiwyd) yn bwriadu, ymhen heb fod yn llai na saith niwrnod o ddyddiad yr Hysbysiad hwn, gwneud Gorchymyn a fydd yn gwneud yr hyn a ddisgrifir yn yr atodlenni isod: -

ATOLDEN 1

1. Ni fydd unrhyw berson yn achosi neu'n caniatáu i gerbyd modur deithio yn y lleoliad a nodir yn Atodlen 2 isod.

ATOLDEN 2

Lleoliad 1/ **Brock Street, Y Barri** o'r gyffordd â Heol y Bont-faen am 30m i'r gogledd.

Dargyfeiriadau drwy weddill rhan agored Brock Street, Coldbrook Road a Heol y Bont-faen.

2/ **Caruw Street, Y Barri** o'r gyffordd â Lydstep Road am 20m i'r gogledd-ddwyrain.

Dargyfeiriadau i draffig ar gael ar ffordd dros dro a adeiledir ar safle'r ardal waith.

3/ **Lydstep Road, Y Barri** ar gau rhwng y gyffordd â Redberth Close a Solva Close, sicrheir mynediad i drigolion ar un ochr i'r ffordd wedi'i chau neu'r llall.

Dargyfeiriadau traffig ar waith drwy Collard Crescent, Dyfan Road, Treharne Road, St Brides Way, Ramsey Road, a Skomer Road.

Rheswm I wneud gwaith gwella ar Reoli Llifogydd ar Coldbrook.

Hyd O 7.00am ar ddydd Mercher 4 Ionawr 2017 am hyd at 18 mis.

DS: Sicrheir mynediad i gerddwyr bob amser.

Dyddiedig 15 Rhagfyr 2016

M. E. Punter,
Cyfarwyddwr yr Amgylchedd a Thai,
Cyngor Bro Morgannwg,
Canolfan yr Alpau, Gwenfô.
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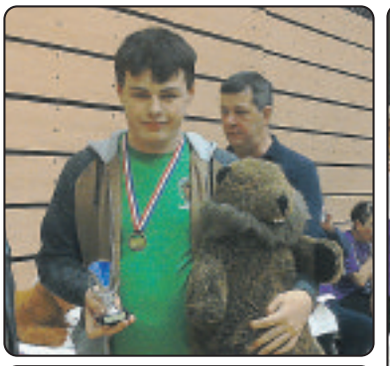
IT'S been a great year for the Barry Beavers Swimming Club (see report of recent triumphs on page 40) and these photos catalogue the highs and the, well, even more highs of a busy 2016. The swimming club, a registered charity, is run for adults and children with disabilities or long-term health conditions. It meets each Saturday at the Barry Leisure Centre between 3.30pm and 4.45pm.



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FESTIVE CHEER FOR PENARTH HOCKEY TEAM

PENARTH 7, YATE 1

AFTER back-to-back away days with mixed results, Penarth returned to Stanwell with high hopes of maintaining their unbeaten home run into the winter break.

After the early goal rush of the previous week, Penarth's expectations had sky-rocketed and the side became unnecessarily impatient when similar success failed to come. That frustration subsequently affected the Bears' play and some sloppy possession at the back gifted Yate a simple through ball and tap in to take a surprise lead.

That, however, only served to refocus the Penarth team, and they quickly returned to the simple passing game that had paid dividends during the opening exchanges.

Having settled themselves, the possession would eventually lead to an equaliser, as a robust challenge from captain Tom Haran led to Yate committing the cardinal sin of not playing the whistle, standing like statues as Penarth flew upfield before Tim Urlings finished off with an audacious lob over the out-rushing keeper.

With that, the proverbial floodgates opened, and a second goal blitz in as many weeks blew away their shell-shocked opponents.

At the centre of the onslaught was Ben Croxall, who scored an unbelievable three-minute hat-trick, the first stemming from some neat interplay between Haran and Usman Dhami before Croxall was released through the middle, beating the Yate defence before smashing his shot into the bottom corner.

Before Yate could learn their lesson, Croxall had again weaved through the back line and slotted past the exposed keeper, and he would round out his hat-trick by firing a penalty stroke low to the hapless keeper's right to give Penarth a 4-1 lead at the interval.

Croxall carried on from his first half hour, bagging Penarth's fifth from a penalty corner before Urlings regained scoring duties to claim his second hat-trick in as many weeks as they completed a comfortable 7-1 victory.

Going into the four-week hiatus, Penarth sit just two points off top spot in Conference North after a good first half to the season and appear to have hit form at the perfect time, leaving them in a strong position to kick on in the New Year and push for back-to-back promotion.

BRIDGEND A 4, PENARTH A 1

The second XI travelled to Bridgend knowing the victor in their match-up would go into the Christmas break in the promotion places, but anticipating another hard-fought encounter with a side that has occupied second spot from the start of the season.

Despite persistent rain dampening the occasion, it was the visitors who started quicker, grabbing an early goal through Sam Salisbury following a defence-splitting pass from left-half Andrew Hornby. The strike only seemed to wake Bridgend up, however, and the hosts quickly took the ascendancy, putting pressure on a Penarth defence that allowed themselves to be distracted by some of the umpiring decisions.

Although the back line resisted Bridgend's pressure for a while, an equaliser looked increasingly likely, and came midway through the half after a penalty corner was recycled long enough to free up players at the far post. Buoyed by drawing level, the home side took the lead shortly after, again following a penalty corner decision that caused some consternation amongst the defence.

The Bears continued to feel aggrieved that, despite several infringements in the 'D', not a single penalty corner came their way and the lack of set-piece opportunities combined with growing frustration to derail the visitors' effort.

Penarth twice found the back of the net with the score at 2-1, only to see both 'goals' ruled out, one for an infringement in the build-up and the other as the ball apparently caught a forward's foot on its way over the line with the keeper already beaten.

As time ticked away, Penarth pressed increasingly higher up the field in search of at least an equaliser but, with virtually all of the Bears in the Bridgend half, the home side were able to hit them on the counter.

Penarth switched to a three-man defence for the final 10 minutes in the hope of conjuring something with an extra man going forward, but were again undone by a Bridgend break to leave the final score at a flattering 4-1 to the home side.

The defeat sees the seconds go into the Christmas break occupying fourth place in De Cymru 1, six points off the promotion places with a tough opening to the New Year next up.

SWANSEA CITY C 1, PENARTH B 7

Penarth started strongly and, having taken the game to their hosts, were a goal to the good in short order.

With both Chris McCarthy and Will Romain available for the side, chances on goal were frequent and plentiful, with McCarthy and captain Dave Watkins feasting on the opportunities that came their way.

Meanwhile, the rare counters from the Swansea half were ably dealt with by the robust defence of Simon Wilkinson, Rob Harrison, Freddy Thomas and Richard Cousins. As a result, goalkeeper Mark Harris was called upon infrequently but, when the door was knocked, there was certainly no room at his inn.

With the visitors reaching the interval with a comfortable lead, captain Watkins' team talk unsurprisingly focused on keeping a clean sheet while adding more at the other end to pad an already comfortable goal difference ahead of the Christmas break.

The second period, however, proved to be a tighter affair, but Penarth continued to find chinks in the Swansea armour thanks to some expansive play, ably assisted by Dave Thomas and the returning Matt Noble, and the win was sealed well before Swansea bagged a consolation goal.

Amid a four-goal haul for the skipper, and a brace from the influential McCarthy, the highlight of the day was surely the sight of Mark Robinson grabbing a goal.

PENARTH C 0, SWANSEA UNIVERSITY C 2

The fourth XI ended the first half of their return to action by entertaining their counterparts from Swansea University in a top versus bottom clash in De Cymru 3.

Steady defence from the rapidly-improving Rhys Meddins and solid Morgan Salisbury ensured goalless parity at the break but, having avoided conceding an early goal at the start of the game, Penarth did exactly the opposite in the early moments of the second half.

The ball was lost too easily in midfield and, without anyone tracking back, the Swansea central midfielder was able to drive unchallenged towards the Penarth 'D'. Having drawn one Penarth defender, the ball was slipped to a now unmarked forward whose sharp finish into the far corner gave man-of-the-match Williams no chance.

Despite the setback, the 'C-siders' refused to fold, but the exertions of the first half coupled with worsening conditions meant they could make little impact on the younger, fitter students. The refusal to go quietly, however, meant that the visitors were only able to extend their lead by one goal.

The final whistle saw Penarth having to accept a 2-0 defeat where, only 35 minutes previously, they were confidently looking at being the first side to take anything from the unbeaten division leaders, and it is testament to the progress being made that the satisfaction of holding their visitors for so long was tinged with disappointment in not getting at least a draw.

With no league matches scheduled until January, players from all four Penarth sides will come together for the now-traditional 'Turkeys' game between under-35s and over-35s sides at Stanwell school (noon start).

The club would also like to take this opportunity to thank all of its supporters – including sponsors, media and those who braved the sidelines throughout the season - for their involvement over the past 12 months.

Anyone interested in joining the club at senior or youth level can contactclub secretary Dave Stevens (d_stevens81@hotmail.co.uk) for further information.

CL

Harriers impress at meeting

BARRY and Vale Harriers Athletic Club took part in the Gwent Cross Country League at Blaise Castle Bristol on December 3.

Results: Novice girls Eloise Goffin, 54, 8.09; girls under-13 Gweno Goode, 20, 10.34; girls under-15 Fiona Spence, 47, 16.40; Amy Blake, 62, 19.55; girls under-17 Megan Blake, 24, 27.20.

Special mention to Eloise Goffin who improved her position from 94 to 54 and her time from 8.52 to 8.09. Also Megan Blake who improved her her position from 25 to 24, and her time from 28.46 to 27.20.

In the Gwent cross country league meeting at Brecon leisure centre on November 12, the following results were recorded - Novice boys Saxon Dyer, 16, 6.25; Joe Ray 67, 7.09.

Under-13 boys Ben Ray, 34, 11.31; Novice girls Moli Lyons, 10, 11.26; Evie Watkins 24, 12.08; Libby Mckenny 62, 13.24; Leah Smith 84, 14.59. Girls under-15 Fiona Spence 47, 16.40; Amy Blake 62, 19.55. Under-17 girls Megan Blake 25, 28.46.

We would like to again thank the parents, athletes and coaches for making these events possible.

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Vale Schools defeat shield holders in epic encounter

All photos by ELAINE O'CONNOR.

SUNDAY saw the Vale's final Dewar Shield match before Christmas, the keenly anticipated derby game against the current holders of the trophy, Cardiff Schools.

The Vale took to the field resplendent in their new black kit sponsored by Apricot Online Learning.

Having beaten Cardiff in a pre-season tournament and winning their first two Dewar Shield games the Vale were quietly confident but totally respectful of the powerful Cardiff side.

After a tentative start by both sides the Vale outside half Jamie Howells opened the scoring with a beautiful try gliding through the Cardiff back line to score in the left hand corner.

Howells failed to convert his own try, the ball bouncing off the crossbar.

Continued pressure from the Vale saw the forwards drive for the line with Benji Williams going over for what the crowd thought was a second try, however the referee had correctly judged that the ball had been knocked on and the try was disallowed.

Captain Evan Lloyd extended the Vale lead.

Powerful running from the lock forward saw him scythe through the Cardiff defence and score under the posts. With Jamie Howells converting the try, the score was 12-0 to the Vale.

The Vale defence soaked up any Cardiff attack; both sides however performed well at the ruck, Lewys Williams and Iestyn Galton again impressed in both the set piece and the loose, Williams securing and turning over ball at the breakdown, to allow the half backs Will O'Connor and Jamie Howells time to provide clean ball to the centre pairing of Dan Stancombe and Tom Ap John.

It was Stancombe who scored the final points of the half, an unconverted try to take the score to 17-0.

The Vale were playing a more expansive game in the second half, due to their forwards gaining the upper hand in the set pieces, Benji Williams stealing Cardiff's lineout ball on several occasions.

Despite being outweighed in the scrum the better technique of the Vale negated Cardiff's advantage, the front row of Jack Forsyth, Morgan Veness and Will Tuckwell forced Cardiff to replace and shuffle their opposite numbers.

As the half wore on the Vale drove back the Cardiff scrum a number of times, Evan Lloyd and Jarred Williams working in unison to drive the scrum forward.

Cardiff were continuing to defend resolutely when Iestyn Galton ploughed over the line but was deemed to have been held up.

The Vale were camped in the Cardiff half, attacking from all angles through full back Ioan Cooper and wingers Matt Oddy and Griff Naylor.

Oddy grounded the ball over the Cardiff line but again the try was disallowed, the touch judge calling a foot in touch.

Cardiff continued battling and a momentary lapse from a disorganised kick and chase by the Vale allowed Cardiff's replacement wing to wrongfoot the defence and score an excellent individual try to make it 17-5.

Both sides made several replacements, Aled Rees coming on at scrum half, Tristan Thomas and Christian Brooke, replacing the props, Rhys Gentiles and Ed Thomas replacing the wingers and Ben Batten replacing Ioan Cooper at full back.

Late on in the half the Vale scored their final try of the match; after some darting runs from Aled Rees, Iestyn Galton sped through the Cardiff defence to score. The conversion was missed to give a final score of 22-5.

Many thanks as always to the parents and coaches, to our sponsors Apricot Online Learning, to Canton RFC for hosting the game and to Elaine O'Connor for this week's photographs.

Follow our Dewar Shield progress on Twitter, @ValeSchoolsU15. **MV**

GIRLS LINE UP FOR VALE FOOTBALL FESTIVAL

More than 120 girls took part in the football festival.

A RECORD number of schools attended the Vale Council's annual football festival, run in partnership with Barry Town United Ladies FC.

Over 120 girls between the ages of six and 15 took part in the event, held at St Cyres School.

No medals or prizes were given out, as the emphasis was placed on the enjoyment and development of the players.

The festival was run by the Vale council's sport development team and Barry Town United Ladies FC.

Rachel Shepherd, active young people co-ordinator for the Vale Council, said: "It's fantastic to see so many girls enjoying playing football in the Vale. We've seen a steady increase in the number of girls who are accessing football in their schools and communities over the past few years.

"A huge amount of credit is due to Barry Town United Ladies FC for their commitment to growing the game in the area, along with the other clubs in the Vale who provide girls only and mixed opportunities in the sport."

For information on other football clubs in the Vale, contact Rachel Shepherd, who works to help young people become more active, on 01446 704795 or by emailing rlshepherd@valeofglamorgan. gov.uk.

Christmas passing out for Ninja Kids!

Santa didn't disappoint the Ninjas with his skills!

JSTKD's youngest pupils, all of whom attend their 'Ninja Kids' classes, put on a first-rate display for their families and friends at their annual Christmas event held on December 3.

The children started off with a warm-up and then treated their attentive audience to a fine display, showing off all the Tae Kwon Do skills they have been working on each week.

Of course, it wouldn't be a Christmas event without an appearance from a very special festive guest and thankfully, Santa didn't let the Ninjas down. Much to the delight of the children, after a spectacular board breaking display he quickly moved on to his most important duty – handing out the selection boxes he had brought for all the Ninjas!

VW

Another win for Alan Johns

ALAN JOHNS, who has been in good form of late, chalked up another winner last Thursday when winning the three horse Dave Criddle Travel & Bristol Airport Chase for Aberthin trainer Tim Vaughan.

Riding six-year-old *Bells Of Ailsworth*, a 9-4 chance, and who at six years old was the youngest horse in the race, he finished well ahead of the outsider of three, *Hannibal The Great*.

EVAN'S CHELTENHAM WINNER

***Still Believing*, an eight-year-old chestnut mare ridden by Adam Wedge and trained by Evan Williams at Llancarfan, was a 10 lengths winner of the CF Roberts Electrical & Mechanical Services Mares' Handicap Chase at Cheltenham last Friday.**

A 16-1 chance, *Still Believing* had been placed in her previous three races this season.

BRIAN LEE

Bridge results

RESULTS for the Vale of Glamorgan bridge club for the last two weeks:

Monday, December 5 (Celtic Sims competition): 1st Tony Ratcliff & Julian Pottage 70.64%, 2nd Mike Best & Kevin Maddox 67.05%, 3rd Liam Sheridan & Glenda Roberts 61.93%.

Monday, December 12: 1st Irene Thomas & Graham Jones 67.82%, 2nd Marjorie Morris & Linda Pinnock 66.20%, 3rd Steve Burgoyne & John Evans 57.49%.

LE

The Barry & District League tables and result roundup

CRIB DIVISION 1:

Cadoxton Cons 7, West End 8; Liberals 8, Rhoose Social 7; West End Runaways 8, Moors Boys 7.

League table: Liberals 87, Rhoose Social 85, Wyndham Cons 75, Moors Boys 72, Cadoxton Cons 70, West End Runaways 70, West End 66.

SKITTLES DIVISION 1:

Sea View B 5, Rhoose Social A 2; King William XII 1.5, Cambrian Flyers 5.5; Allsorts 5, Rhoosters 2; Slammers 5, Rhoose Social B 2; Rhoose Social C 5, Rugby Club 2; West End D 5, Barries Boys 2; Liberals A 1, West End C 6.

League table: West End D 50.5, King William XII 48.5, West End C 46, Allsorts 42, Rhoose Social B 41, Rhoosters 35, Barries Boys 34.5, Rhoose Social C 34, Sea View B 34, Rugby Club 33.5, Slammers 30.5, Rhoose Social A 29.5, Liberals C 27.5, Cambrian Flyers 26, Liberals A 19.5.

SNOOKER DIVISION 1:

Rhoose Social C 1, Cadoxton Cons B 4; Services Social B 3, Penarth Cons A 2; Harbour B 2, Penarth Cons B 3; Cadoxton Cons Z 3, Savoy A 2.

League table: Harbour B 45, Savoy A 45, Cadoxton Cons Z 38, Cadoxton Cons B 29, Wyndham Cons A 26, Rhoose Social B 25, Penarth Cons A 24, Services Social B 23, West End C 20, Rhoose Social C 19, Penarth Cons B 16.

SNOOKER DIVISION 2:

Sully Sports A 1, Market Street C 4; Liberators 4, Wyndham Cons C 1; Savoy B 4, West End A 1; Market Street B 4, Harbour A 1; Wyndham Cons D 2, Cadoxton Cons A 3.

League table: Liberators 39, Savoy B 37, Market Street B 34, Wyndham Cons C 34, Harbour A 32, Cadoxton Cons A 30, Market Street C 29, West End A 22, Sully Sports A 22, Wyndham Cons D 21, West End B 20 (* = points deducted).

All league and cup fixtures and results at www.barryleagues.co.uk and on Facebook - search for 'Barry leagues'.

JW

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Dinas Powys ladies show their strength

DINAS POWYS ladies went into this match against Aberdare with three big players away so the strength of the squad was tested to the full.

Making a return to Bryn Y Don, the girls went right on the attack. Within 15 minutes it was 2-0 to the home side as Laura Murray made no mistake; her second was a classy curling finish from just inside the box.

Little Nao was a thorn in the Aberdare team throughout the opening 30 minutes as she linked everything up.

Rachel Beare and Kelly Tuck both came very close with headers from corners as the set pieces where beginning to tell. Taylor Page was seeing plenty of the ball and her quality of delivery freed Murray countless times.

Pacey wide player Demi Bounds, a recent signing, has carried on her a goal a game ratio and lashed a shot home to give the Villagers a comfortable 3-0 lead at the break.

Losing skipper Leanne Pattermore just before the break with a pulled hamstring saw the team reshuffle, but again the defence looked water tight as Page slotted into left back and Elison moving to centre back.

Saunders and Jones were first to a lot of second balls starting the Dinas attacks and Murray was unlucky not to increase the lead as she broke free from her marker.

Gemma Crowley showed why she is a good asset to the team playing wide and setting up chances then dropping into full back to see the game out.

Dinas have worked on their set piece play and eventually after so many near chances and goal line clearances it came off as Rachel Beare powered in with an unstoppable header from a Crowley cross.

Dinas made their changes bringing on Hayley Imperato, Louise Bickel, Emma Cordy and Lea Phillips. This was solid team display that puts the Villagers six points clear at the top, the final score 4-1.

Player of the match was deservedly shared between Vicki Elison and Taylor Page.

LS

Another great year for the Beavers!

2016 has been an eventful year for the Barry Beavers Swimming Club, starting with the gala team improving their times during the year with Pat, Lynda and Cath tracking the times and recording them each week.

Our gala began on April 2, where the town mayor was invited along with club patrons and other representatives. The club did well on the day and htis success continued throughout the gala year.

At the end of the swimming gala timetable there were over 20 medals won for the team, not quite knocking Rhondda into second place, but the whole team did fantastic this year and hope to do better next year.

Pat congratulates the team for doing so well this year and achieving the best times during the year.

Both Sarah and Chris passed their Halliwick training, becoming fully-fledged coaches and instructors to the club; also we have had a lot of new members (swimmers and helpers) join us, getting involved in the training workshops throughout the year.

In August Chris, Cath, Sarah and the other committee members arranged a trip to the Party in the Park music and fun concert at Porthkerry Country Park.

Donna, Lynda and Helen were responsible for the cooking and Sarah, Chris, Rob and Cath arranged the entertainment along with Louis, who did all the technical and sound work on the day.

There was an excellent turn out and everyone who turned up had fun and enjoyed themselves - the event was a huge success.

Also, we had a day trip at Cotswolds Safari Park where the weather wasn't great as it was rainy and dull.

In September it was back to training for the regional and national gala, and both Helen and Rob returned back to the club after having time away from club.

The regional/national gala was well received with the team doing well in gaining medals, and then at the final gala at Rhondda Polar Bears swimming gala, we found out where the team finished.

Recently we had our last Halliwick workshop of this year at Barry Leisure Centre which swimmers and helpers from the club as well as those from other clubs attended.

The emphasis was to introduce disabled swimmers as well as abled-bodied swimmers to the water.

To end the year the club had their Christmas party at Sully Bowls Club, in which guests were invited to come and join in the celebrations.

There were awards given to club members Kyle S, Sarah, Donna, Keira, Pat Finch, Stephen, Tyler, Chris E, Donna, Helen and Lynda for catering for PIP and the party amongst others.

SEE PICTURES FROM THE YEAR ON PAGE 35

NC

The Barry and District Ladies Skittle League

LATEST results for Barry and District Ladies Skittle League are as follows:

First division: Coppers (S Davies, S Ford 31) 309, SV Gals (C Gaffney 32) 296; Colcot Ladies (K Taylor 29) 234, Pila Palas (A Williams 30) 303; Allsorts (R Dawes 31) 281, Family and Friends (J Kirby 30) 282; Bobby's Girls (P Martiun 26) 253, Red Admiral (J Jones 30) 259; Family Affair (N Jones 30) 244, Space Finders (E Worthy 29) 260; Barry Stars (A Cullen, C Lambeth 35) 352, Special Angels (L Briham 31) 278.

Second division: Rhoose Starlights (D Stradling 31) 267, Castle Bandits (M Stevens 24) 197; Airways Angels (M Carpenter 28) 229, Roller Coasters (J Marriott 29) 242; Merry Makers (M Payne 26) 208, Cad Con Fillies (D Stringer 30) 233; S V Lights (M Briscombe 31) 306, After Eights (M Hellyar 28) 236; Castaways (A Greening 30) 284, Breakaways (C Parfitt 29) 249; Fallen Angels (C Phillips 27) 259, Clickies (G Jackson 27) 229; Witchill Widows (A Doel Davies 32) 325, Witchill Weebies (P Harnell 38) 318.

Third division: SV Ladies (W Norman, K Lachly, S Holden, C Griffiths 29) 289, Vixens (K Thomas 35) 322; Twilights (A Campbell 26) 202, Rebels (A Philips 26) 213; Etcetera (S Dyke, C Stillman 25) 236, Rugby Triers (C Jenkins 26) 241; Dolly Mixtures (L Hughes 22) 216, Hill Billies (E Anzani 25) 209; Witches (A Tyler 31) 239, La Belles (N Cordy 29) 263; Challengers (D Elston 34) 332, Westenders (M Davies 32) 299.

Fourth division: Boozy Birds (C Connell 33) 294, Nite Outers (F Glanville, L Newman 32) 242; Socialites (P Todd 29) 264, Optimists (P Williams 25) 234; Odd Bods (V Jackson 25) 207, Off The Rails (L Stephenson 26) 224; Hell Raisers (L Waters 25) 221, Persuaders (C Organ 29) 240, Witchill Wanderers (S Reynolds 32) 247, Liberals (C Williams 26) 272.

Barry RFC back in action

BARRY RFC return to league action this weekend with a clash against local rivals Penarth at home, kick off 2.30pm.

The team, currently lying fourth in the table, will be looking to extend their current unbeaten run to seven games in the final fixture of 2016.

Lottery numbers for last week were 03, 05, 06 and 12 - no winners once again so the jackpot rolls over this week to £3,140.

AJ

Barrivale results

LATEST results from Barrivale Bridge Club for December 6:

First, Mike Close and Mark Roderick 70.95 per cent; second, Mick Green and Peter Millar 65.71 per cent; third, Jane Brook and Noelle Bond 59.52 per cent.

Reg Dyer and Ken Hannah won on handicap.

New members are always welcome at Barrivale. A partner may be arranged if required. If you would like to join us ring 01446 418380 or 01446 733425 or 01446 735592 call at the Pioneer Hall, Beryl Road, Barry on Tuesdays at 7pm. Alternatively players, inexperienced or new, may attend on Fridays at 10am at the same address.

DAVE REED

SECOND ROUND OF BARRY CHESS CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS TAKES PLACE

THIS week saw the second round of the Barry Chess Club Championships.

A total of eight matches were played. The winners from round one were paired together as were the losers.

There were no real surprises as all the results went in line with the players ratings, so after two rounds there are only three players with a 100 per cent record - Sam Jukes and Ken Hannah lead the table ahead of Chris Green on tie break.

There were also wins for Mark Cooke and Dave Parsons. Both of these players requested a bye in round one so have 1.5 points to take fourth and fifth place in the table.

John Stephenson continued his unbeaten start to the tournament recording a second consecutive draw. He along with myself head the rest of the players with a score of one point.

At this early stage in the tournament only two players have failed to trouble the score yet.

However it is also pleasing to see that there have not been any defaults as yet.

It remains to be seen whether this comment has tempted fate or will this trend continue. The third round has not been scheduled yet but is likely to take place in February.

Things are also looking up in the league. The Bosons and Camelots both played and won their games. The Quarks were due to play as well but their match was postponed at very short notice.

The Bosons beat the Cardiff Bishops by 1.5-3.5. There was a good win for Steve Cunliffe and Rhys Steele maintained his 100 per cent record since he returned from Oxford University by virtue of an error from his opponent, Alex Bullen.

Matthew Davies, Sam Jukes and Dave Parsons all drew their games. This was the fourth victory for the Bosons from eight matches and moves them into the lofty position of fourth.

There is only 0.5 of a point separating fourth from eighth so it remains tight in the relegation battle but the Bosons have the advantage of a superior tie-break score.

In division 2 the Camelots defeated Bridgend B with a score of 4-1. There were wins for Rhys Steele, Sam Jukes, Stephen Bonutto and Tom Cooke.

With three wins and a draw from their eight games the Camelots have risen away from the relegation spots to sit in sixth position.

We hold a margin of 2.5 points above the relegation fight and also have a slight tie break advantage. Even though the halfway stage has not been reached the North Clubardiff Titans and Pentyrch B teams look adrift of the rest of the field and will probably end up being relegated. We are therefore playing to avoid eighth place.

The Barry Chess Club meets at 7.30pm each Monday at the West End Club. St. Nicholas Road, Barry CF62 6QY.

The club is open to players of all standards; whether you are interested in playing competitive chess or just the occasional friendly games.

New players are very welcome to just turn up on the night but if you contact one of the club members through the website we can explain what is happening on the night you have in mind, and arrange for someone to greet you on your arrival.

For more details visit our website at barrychessclub.yolasite.com.

PJ

Six of the best for Wolves

THIS game between Dinas Powys Wolves and Island Marine B was played in terrible conditions on a pitch that was cutting up from the first whistle.

Nic Silver did a great job controlling the match and both sets of player put on a good show.

IMFC started brightly forcing a number of free kicks on their right but the visitors defence looks a well oiled machine of late.

Dylan Morris pulled off his only save in the opening five minutes tipping a snap shot around the post with his feet.

Bayley Harewood then opened the scoring smashing home from 20 yards with a powerful strike that the keeper had no chance with.

Rian Thomas was having an inspired game on the right as his pace was proving to much and was unlucky not to add a few.

Kyle Booker did all the hard work but after beating two struck the post. Joe Doughty and Callum Hewitson were linking up well and forced the home side into some desperate last-ditch defending.

At 1-0 the game was still tight but any fears of losing the lead were put to bed early on as Rian Thomas and Bayley Hareward put the villagers into a 3-0 lead.

Kyle Booker than turned finisher as he grabbed a hat-trick within eight minutes.

Jake Lewis, Jake Frost, Jacob Perria, Jacob Moss and Kian Quest proved too strong for the home side with a no-nonsense approach to the art of defending.

Zac Fifield has taken to his role in the midfield so well over the past two years and here he showed his strength, both in defending his own box and being a goalscoring threat in the oppositions' box.

Man of the match was Jake Lewis, who has galvanised the team from the back.

The final score was 6-1.

LS

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